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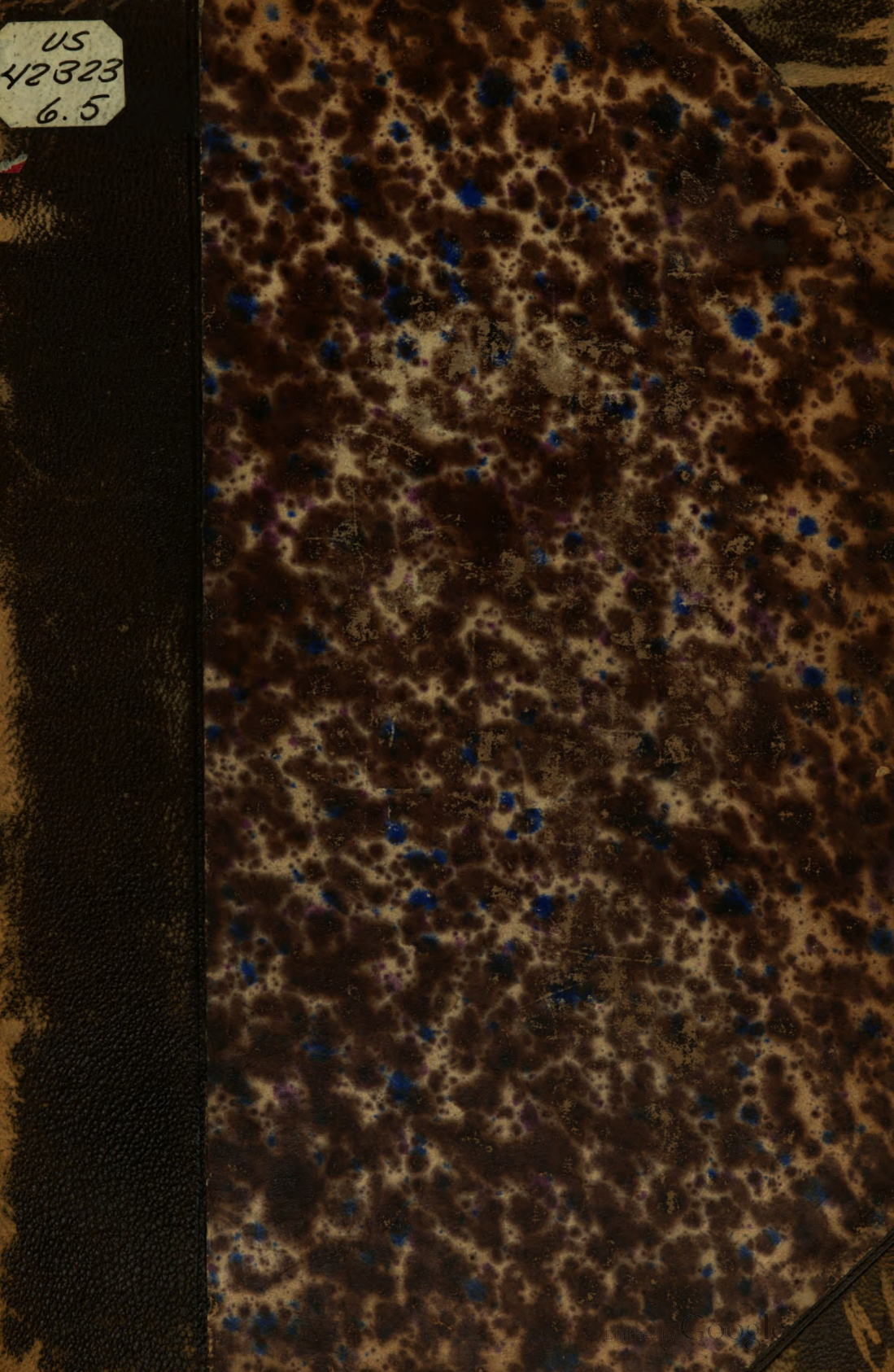
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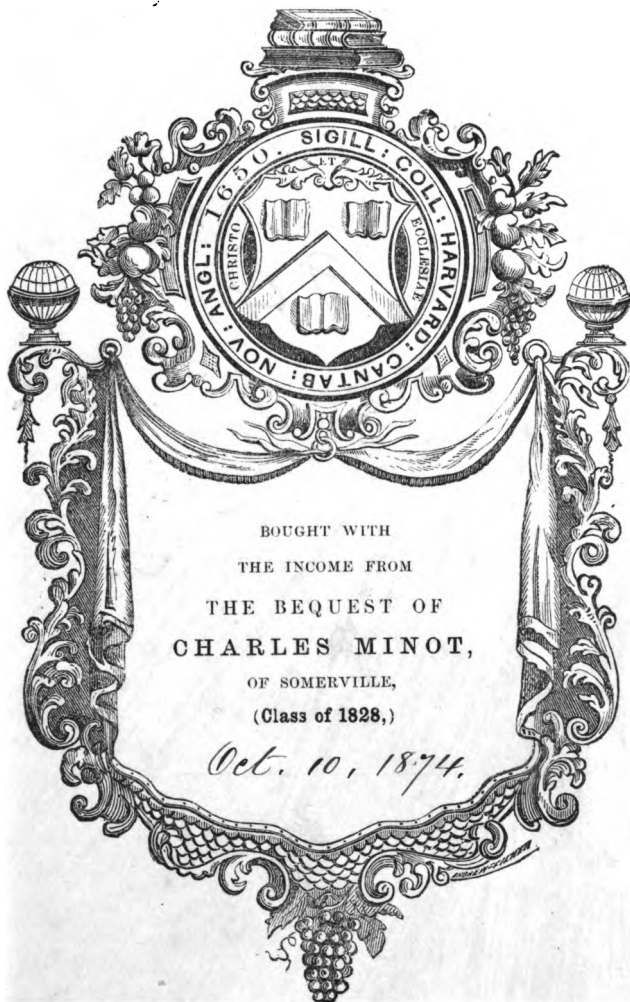
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Wells, C. K.

GENEALOGY  
OF THE  
**WELLS FAMILY**  
OF  
WELLS, MAINE.





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GENEALOGY

OF THE

WELLS FAMILY

OF

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*WELLS, MAINE.*

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BY CHARLES K. WELLS.

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## PREFACE.

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Though I have bestowed considerable time and care on this Genealogy, I am well aware that it is far from being complete. The reason is this: the records and nearly all the members of the Wells family are more than a thousand miles distant from me, and the state of my health has prevented me from consulting either personally; and in some instances I could obtain no answers to letters addressed to prominent members of different branches of the family.

I am indebted, for the principal part that appears in the following pages, to the late Judge Edward E. Bourne, of Kennebunk, Me., who made for me a most thorough examination of the church and town records of the town of Wells, and of the county records of the county of York, Me. I am also indebted to Mr. Henry J. Cross, of Salem, Mass., for valuable information, and for obtaining for me copies of interesting documents from the records of Essex County. I am also under obligation to the Register of Deeds and the Probate Register of York County, for promptly furnishing, at a moderate expense, abstracts and copies of valuable papers and records in their respective offices.

## PREFACE.

I have published in the Appendix hereto copies of several wills and probate orders, not because of any intrinsic interest in them of themselves, but because they furnish the most conclusive and satisfactory evidence of the connection and relationship between the various members and generations of the family.

I am quite sure that the names of all John<sup>2</sup> Wells' descendants, down to and including the fourth and perhaps the fifth generation, who had children, are here given; so that it will be easy for any of his descendants to trace back his lineage to him, and thence to Thomas Wells of Ipswich, our first ancestor in this country. I should be glad to have any person who can supply any of the omissions I have made communicate the same to me in writing, and if another edition of this Genealogy should be published, the omitted names supplied will appear in their proper places.

CHARLES K. WELLS.

MILWAUKEE, WIS., January 1, 1874.

## EXPLANATION OF THE PLAN.

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As the plan here adopted may not be apparent at first view, the following explanation may be deemed necessary: The Arabic numbers running through the whole Genealogy are to show not only the number of every individual descended from the same ancestor, but by the aid of them the connection of every person is seen at a glance, and the ancestors or descendants may be traced backward or forward with the greatest ease and facility. One number set under another, or two numbers set against the same individual, show in all cases that such individual has descendants, and the lower number indicates the place in the series next after which the descendants are to be found; remembering that the Roman numerals are only employed to show the number of children belonging to the same particular family.

For example: ( $\frac{20}{28}$ ) IV. NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> shows that this person is number 20 in the regular Arabic series, and that following (28) onward his family will be found; the IV. indicates that he is his father's fourth child; the <sup>4</sup> at the end of the name denotes the individual to be of the fourth generation from the first of the series, and so of all other numbers in a similar situation; i. e., all those placed like an exponent at the end of names show the generation. All names of persons having descendants are necessarily repeated in their order, but are not renumbered. Thus NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> (20) is repeated after (28), the (20) showing his original place in the series. If two numbers (thus:  $\frac{20}{28}$ ) are not placed to the left of a person's name, it denotes that such person has no descendants named herein. The descendants of the female descendants are not given.



# THE WELLS FAMILY.

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The Wells, or Welles, family, in England, is of very ancient origin, clearly traceable back, it is claimed, to the time of the Norman conquest. About 1635 several families of that name (which was then sometimes spelt Wells, but oftener Welles) emigrated from England to Massachusetts. Some of these families remained in the eastern part of that State, others went to Rhode Island, others to Hartford and other towns in Connecticut, and still others to Hatfield and Hadley, in the western part of Massachusetts. So that we find at a very early day—before 1660—persons bearing that name in many towns of New England. It is probable that (1) Thomas Wells of Ipswich was the earliest emigrant of that name who settled in this country. He came as early as 1635, and perhaps a year earlier. Savage, in his *Genealogical Dictionary of New England*, states that he came in 1635, on the “Susan and Ellen,” from London, with young Richard Saltonstall, when thirty years of age. Mr. D. W. Hoyt, of Providence, R. I., has published the genealogy of his third son, Thomas (*N. E. Gen. Register*, vol. 12, page 157), and I have endeavored in these pages to trace as well as I could, especially through the earlier generations, the descendants of his second son, John; and I hope some other person will do the same in regard to the descendants of his eldest son, Nathaniel.



The following interesting article is copied from the New England Genealogical Register, vol. 4, pages 11 and 12, and some of its erroneous statements are hereafter noticed :

Thomas Wells was one of the earliest English inhabitants of Ipswich. He took the Freeman's oath at Boston, May 7, 1637. He had a house lot granted to him in 1635, on the south side of the river, near where the Stone Bridge now is, and afterwards, in 1638, "planting lands" near "Heart-break Hill." He probably came from Essex, England, having had relatives at Colchester, in that County, at the time of his decease in 1666. He married Abigail, a daughter of William Warner, sister of Daniel and John Warner, all of them people of consideration among the first settlers. He left three sons, Nathaniel, the eldest, John, and Thomas; and five daughters, Sarah Massie, of Salem, Abigail Tredwell, of Ipswich, Elizabeth, Hannah, and Lydia. The last named became Lydia Ropes before the decease of her mother in 1671. Nathaniel, the eldest son, with his wife Lydia, continued to reside in Ipswich until after the decease of his mother, who bequeaths to him the "flax now growing." He was probably father of Nathaniel, who was born 1669, and died at Ipswich October 13, 1717, who was father of Capt. Nathaniel, who was born April 24, 1699, and died May 27, 1790. The Rev. Jonathan French, of North Hampton, in an article in the Genealogical Register, volume 1, page 43, states that the Rev. Nathaniel Wells, minister, of Deerfield, New Hampshire, was "son of Deacon Nathaniel Wells, whose father was also Deacon Nathaniel Wells, who removed to Wells, Me., from Ipswich, Mass., and who was a son of Deacon Thomas Wells of Ipswich." I suspect that there is an error here, and that the first Dea. Nathaniel Wells, of Wells, was son of John, second son of Thomas of Ipswich, who married Sarah, daughter of Francis Littlefield, and settled in Wells, which received its name from this family, having previously been called Preston. His father transferred to him, by a deed of gift, all his lands in that place, being about three hundred and fifty acres. To Thomas, the youngest son, the father, by his will, dated July 3, 1666, bequeaths two hundred and fifty pounds sterling, to be paid him "when he come to the age of 22 years, 4 months and 10 days." By the same instrument, it appears that he was born "11th 11th mo., 1646," or January 11, 1647, of the present style. Why this precise period was fixed on for the payment of the legacy does not appear. Is it possible that the good Deacon could have dabbled in astrology? He also provides for the contingency of his son's "going to the colledge," and bequeaths to him "all the books I bought for his use, and my phissic books, and the books called orthodox evangelist." Two books which would probably come under the latter description, "The Soul's Preparation for

Christ," and "Parkins upon the Creed," he had given to his daughters.\* From this bequest of "phissic books," the inference is drawn that he was a physician.† The evidence is not quite conclusive, yet I know of no other. The books were appraised at £8 6s. 3d., a respectable medical library for those days. This was probably the Thomas Wells who, according to Farmer, was the first minister of Amesbury, ordained in 1672, and died July 10, 1734, aged eighty-six. If so, he was eighty-seven years and six months old at the time of his decease.

From the above, and from the will of (1) THOMAS WELLS' of Ipswich, our first ancestor in America (Appendix, pages 3 to 12), and other evidence, it appears that he married Abigail, the daughter of William Warner (but whether in England or this country I cannot state), and had children, viz.:

- (2) I. NATHANIEL,<sup>2</sup> born —, died December 15, 1681. He married, October 29, 1661, Lydia Thurlley, and had children, viz.:

ABIGAIL, born in 1662.

LYDIA, born in 1667.

NATHANIEL, born in 1669.

SARAH, born in 1671.

HANNAH and ELIZABETH, born in 1677.

As I do not propose to trace the descendants of Nathaniel<sup>2</sup> (2), his children are not numbered.

- (3) II. JOHN,<sup>2</sup> born —, died in Wells April 11, 1677.  
 (4) III. SARAH,<sup>2</sup> born —, married John Massie, of Salem.  
 (5) IV. ABIGAIL,<sup>2</sup> born —, married, June 19, 1661, Nathaniel Tredwell, of Salem.  
 (6) V. THOMAS,<sup>2</sup> born January 11, 1647, died July 10, 1734.  
 (7) VI. ELIZABETH,<sup>2</sup> born —, married — Burnam.  
 (8) VII. HANNAH,<sup>2</sup> born —.  
 (9) VIII. LYDIA, born —, married, March 25, 1669, John Ropes, of Salem.

The relative ages of the children I judge from the order in which

\*Not correctly stated. See Appendix, pages 4 and 8.

†In his will, and in several deeds, he is styled a "yeoman," from which I infer that he was not a physician.

they are named in their father's will, and from other facts therein stated.

The first Dea. Nathaniel Wells, of Wells, was not the son or grandson of Dea. Thomas Wells, of Ipswich, as above stated, but the son of Thomas Wells, who was the son of John Wells, the second of Thomas Wells of Ipswich, as will hereafter appear. (See number 20.)

I find no evidence that the Town of Wells received its name from the family. On the contrary, it was called Wells in Thomas Gorges' deed to the Rev. John Wheelwright, made in 1643, which was long before any person of that name had his residence there. It probably received its name from the old town of Wells, in Norfolk County, England. We find in Wells no person of that name before 1657. On the 29th day of June, 1657, Thomas Wells of Ipswich purchased of William Symonds "200 acres of upland and 15 acres of meadow, having a dwelling-house standing upon the same." (Vol. 10, page 91, York Co. Registry.) About this time it is supposed John, second son of Thomas Wells of Ipswich, went to Wells. A few years later both his brothers, Nathaniel and Thomas, bought and sold lands in the town of Wells, as appears from the records of York County. These records afford strong evidence that his brother Thomas was the Rev. "Thomas Wells, minister, of Amesbury," though the identity has been sometimes questioned. In a conveyance of land to him, made January 8, 1667, he is described therein as "Thomas Wells, Jun<sup>r</sup>, of Ipswich, Essex County, Mass."; and when, on the 9th of August, 1689, he conveyed the same land to Nicholas Cole, he is described in his deed of conveyance as "Thomas Wells, of Amesbury, minister." The Probate Record of York County Court reads thus: "Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells of Ipswich, a<sup>d</sup> Tho: Wells of Amesbury, a<sup>d</sup> Saraih Sayer, late wife of John Wells, deceased, are hereby appoynted joint administrators to y<sup>e</sup> estate of the aforesaid John Wells." On the 4th of December, 1677, the above order was annulled; and on the 2d of July, 1678, the first order was reinstated and confirmed by an order of the said County Court, which contains the following recital: "W<sup>as</sup>, there was an order of the County Court, 6 Novemb<sup>r</sup>, '77, for the settling of John Wells, his estate, of

Wells, deceased, w<sup>r</sup>by Natha<sup>l</sup> Wells a<sup>d</sup> Thomas Wells, minister, of Amesbury, with Saraih, the relect of y<sup>e</sup> sayd John Wells, w<sup>r</sup> appoynted joint administrators y<sup>r</sup>of; w<sup>ch</sup> County Court order, upon some considerations by the Court of Assotiate, 4<sup>th</sup> Decebr, '77, was made null," etc. (Appendix, p. 16.) The above appointment was made *without notice*, which could not have been done unless the persons appointed were next of kin, and entitled to the administration. Moreover, the first order of appointment above mentioned was reinstated and confirmed, at the instance of Nathaniel and Thomas Wells, on the 2d of July, 1678; and on that day Nathaniel "renounceth administration of John Wells, his brother's estate, w<sup>ch</sup> the Court accepts off." This left the administration of the estate to Thomas Wells and Sarah Sayer. Now it is not at all likely that the minister of Amesbury would come to Wells to administer on an estate of £352 8s. 6d. unless he was a near relative of the decedent, and felt a deep interest in the maintenance and education of his children. Hence I think the records above referred to prove conclusively that Thomas Wells, minister, of Amesbury, was the third son of Thomas Wells of Ipswich.

JOHN<sup>d</sup> WELLS (3) married Sarah Littlefield, who was the daughter of Francis Littlefield, of Wells, and was born Nov. 16, 1649. They were probably married about 1664 or 1665, and not as early as 1660, as stated by Savage in his N. E. Genealogical Dictionary. They were married some time before the 31st of July, 1666, as appears by the reference to her and her father, in his father's will of that date. He died the 11th of April, 1677, as appears by the inventory of his estate in the Probate record of the administration of his estate. "The old lot upon which he lived" was, at the time his estate was divided among his children,—April 3, 1702,—bounded on the northeast by land of Benjamin Curtis, and on the southwest by land then in possession of Mr. John Wheelwright, and was assigned to his son John as a part of his share of his father's estate.

He left four children, who were living at the time of the partition of his estate, on the 3d of April, 1702 (York Co. Registry, vol. 6, p.

145), and at the time of the making of their mother's will, on the 7th day of April, 1734, viz.:

- (<sup>10</sup>/<sub>13</sub>) I. JOHN,<sup>3</sup> born in 1670, died in 1748.
- (<sup>11</sup>/<sub>16</sub>) II. THOMAS,<sup>3</sup> born in 1672, died Aug. 26, 1737.
- (12) III. PATIENCE,<sup>3</sup> who married Nathaniel Clark, and had grandchildren living at the time her mother's will was made.
- (13) IV. SARAH,<sup>3</sup> who married first Samuel Sibley, of Salem, who was killed by the Indians in their assault upon Haverhill, August 29, 1708, and secondly, about December, 1710, John Sayer, of Newbury.

The ages of John<sup>3</sup> and Thomas<sup>3</sup> appear in a deposition made by them on the 19th of November, 1734, and on record in York Co. Registry of Deeds, vol. 16, pages 261 and 262, in which John's<sup>3</sup> age is then stated to be sixty-four years, and Thomas's<sup>3</sup> sixty-two years. I find no evidence that John<sup>2</sup> ever had any other children than those above mentioned, though Savage states that he had Nehemiah and Nathaniel, which I wholly discredit.

John<sup>2</sup> (3) died on the 11th of April, 1677, as above stated, and before the 6th of November following his widow married William Sayer,\* of Wells. The Probate record of that date reads as follows: "Natha<sup>1</sup> Wells of Ipswich, a<sup>d</sup> Tho: Wells of Amesbury, a<sup>d</sup> Saraih Sayer, late wife of John Wells, deceased, are hereby appoynted joint administrators to y<sup>e</sup> estate of the afores<sup>d</sup> John Wells." (Appendix, p. 15.) Her children by William Sayer were:

- I. JOSEPH, born Aug. 14, 1678, who, with his family, was killed by the Indians on the 10th of August, 1703, at the same time that the family of his half-brother Thomas Wells<sup>3</sup> were massacred, as hereafter stated.
- II. FRANCIS, born 1681.
- III. DANIEL, born 1683.
- IV. HANNAH, born 1685, afterward Hannah Chesley.
- V. RUTH, born 1687, afterwards Ruth Sampson.

She lived in Wells, and died there in 1735, having survived her

\*The orthography of the name was subsequently changed to Sawyer.

second husband. When he first became a resident of Wells I have not been able to ascertain. He was Surveyor of Highways in 1685, and one of the Selectmen in 1706. His descendants have been among the leading inhabitants of the town. It will be seen that she particularly mentions in her will her children by each husband, except her son Joseph, who was then dead. (Appendix, page 17.)

JOHN<sup>3</sup> (10), the eldest son of John,<sup>2</sup> and grandson of Thomas of Ipswich, became a "mariner." He went to Boston—was there in 1702 and 1707. He returned to Wells—was there in 1723, and is described in a deed of that date as an "innholder," and in 1740 and thereafter as a "yeoman." He married, probably while a resident of Boston, Mary — (perhaps Mary Peck, February 18, 1697). He made his will May 10, 1748, and died in that year. His estate inventoried £2000, a large sum for that time, including one negro, inventoried at £100.

He left three children :

- (<sup>14</sup>/<sub>2</sub>) I. JOHN,<sup>4</sup> Jr., who is described in deeds as a "blacksmith."
- (15) II. MARY,<sup>4</sup> who married — Maddock.
- (16) III. HANNAH,<sup>4</sup> who married Thomas Goodwin.

THOMAS,<sup>3</sup> (11), second son of John,<sup>2</sup> was born in 1672. After his father's death, in 1677, we hear nothing of him till his first marriage, at Newbury, in 1696. We next hear of him at Wells, in 1700, at which time the town records state "that Thomas Wells requested to have the line run between him and his neighbor." The church records of that town state that on the 14th day of December, 1701, "Thomas Wells, *from the church of Newbury*, was admitted," etc. It is, therefore, very evident that he had been a resident of Newbury, and a member of the church there, and came from that place to Wells about 1700.

I am inclined to think that after the death of his father he went to live with his uncle Thomas, minister at Amesbury, or with some other relative near Newbury, and remained there until he returned to Wells in 1700. Immediately after the massacre of his family by the Indians, as hereafter stated, he returned to Newbury, as if it was an

old home. I also refer to the order appointing the administrators of his father's estate, which provides for the contingency of some one else beside the mother maintaining some of the children. (Appendix, page 15.) His brother John<sup>3</sup> was in Boston; his sister Sarah was married to Samuel Sibley of Salem; and his father's land had not been divided. It might, therefore, well be expected that when he returned to his native town his first business would be to ascertain the condition of the land left by his father. Hence his first public act on record is to request the town authorities "to run the line between him and his neighbor," and his second to join the church.

It appears by the town records of Newbury that in 1696 Thomas Wells married Sarah Browne, and had children :

- (17) I. SARAH,<sup>4</sup> born March 9, 1699, at Newbury, as appears by the records there.
- (18) II. JOSHUA,<sup>4</sup> born October 9, 1701, at Wells, as appears by the town records there, and baptized September 12, 1702, as appears by the church records of Wells.
- (19) III. Another child was born about the 9th of August, 1703.

The old tradition is, that on the 10th of August, 1703, "just after the birth of the *fourth* child, while the father was absent in search of a nurse to take care of his wife, the Indians came to the house and killed mother and all the children; that a neighbor who was acting as nurse, in taking care of the children during the absence of the father, on seeing the Indians approach the house made her escape by a back door and concealed herself in a field of corn near by, where she saw the Indians as they dashed out the brains of the children; that after scalping mother and children the Indians set fire to the house and outbuildings, and all were consumed together."

The account of the transaction as given by Judge Wells, vol. 3, Massachusetts Historical Collections, under the head of a "Topographical Account of Wells," is in these words: "At the commencement of the next war (August 10, 1703), and on the day it began, the Indians burnt the dwelling-house of Mr. Thomas Wells, killed his wife and all his children, he being absent from home. At the same time the Indians killed Mr. Sayer and his family, who lived in

the next house, with sundry other persons, and retired. The day before this destruction Mr. Sayer assisted the Indians in grinding their hatchets."

In Sullivan's History of Maine the above transaction is stated to have occurred in 1696. In this he is in error. Thomas Wells<sup>3</sup> (11) at that time was a resident of Newbury, and it was the first year of his marriage with his first wife, and before he had any children. He did not return to Wells prior to 1700. It also appears by the partition of the land belonging to the estate of John Wells<sup>2</sup> among his children, that the part allotted to Thomas Wells<sup>3</sup> adjoined, on the southwest, the land of Joseph Sayer. Administration was granted on Joseph Sayer's estate in 1704. It is evident that he was the Mr. Sayer who, with his family, was killed on the day of the massacre of Thomas Wells's family; and if that had occurred in 1696, administration would probably have been granted on his estate before 1704.

Soon after the murder of his family by the Indians, Thomas Wells<sup>3</sup> (11) returned to Newbury, and made that his residence for some years.

The town records of Salem state that "Thomas Wells, of Newbury, and Lydia Gale, of Salem, were married Oct. 12, 1704." She was the widow of Abraham Gale (who died about the year 1702), and daughter of John Ropes and Lydia Wells<sup>2</sup> (9), youngest daughter of Thomas Wells of Ipswich, who were married March 25, 1669. The daughter, Lydia, was born December 26, 1672. John Ropes was the son of George Ropes, who was in Salem in 1637, and of his wife Mary. John was baptized July, 1647. It thus appears that Thomas Wells<sup>3</sup> (11) married his cousin for his second wife.

It appears by the town records of Newbury that Thomas<sup>3</sup> (11) and Lydia Wells had children born there:

- (<sup>20</sup>/<sub>30</sub>) IV. NATHANIEL,<sup>4</sup> born August 21, 1705. He was the first Deacon Nathaniel Wells, of Wells, and was Town Clerk for many years. He is described in deeds as a "tanner." He died in Wells in July, 1776, having made his will on the 3d day of that month. (App. p. 30.)
- (<sup>21</sup>/<sub>30</sub>) V. JOSHUA,<sup>4</sup> born March 17, 1707.
- (22) VI. LYDIA,<sup>4</sup> born May 29, 1709. She married Samuel Clark.



Thomas,<sup>3</sup> with his wife Lydia and children, returned to Wells the second time probably about 1713, though perhaps not till 1717. He was chosen Deacon of the church at Wells, March 3, 1718. He carried on a tannery in company with his son Nathaniel. One or two years before his death he conveyed several tracts of land in Wells to each of his sons, Nathaniel and Joshua. He died in Wells, Aug. 26, 1737. His will was dated July 19, 1737, and proved September 22, 1737. (Appendix, page 25.) He mentions in his will his wife Lydia, his sons Nathaniel and Joshua, and his daughter Lydia Clark. One clause in his will reads thus: "I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife Lydia my negro man Jeff." This "negro man" was bought of Nathan Hale October 21, 1718, for £55. The original deed or bill of sale of that date, from Nathan Hale to Thomas Wells, of a "negro boy named Jeffy," for £55, was in the possession of Abigail Wells, daughter of Judge Wells, at the time of her death a few years ago. That deed, with other ancient deeds and documents, had been handed down for several generations, and had been carefully kept by her after her father's death. After her death these papers fell into the hands of those who felt little interest in "ancient documents," and unfortunately they were consigned to the "rag-bag." The "negro man Jeff" continued in the family for four generations. I have often heard my father, Daniel<sup>6</sup> (69), relate the sayings and doings of "old Jeff."

JOHN,<sup>4</sup> Jr. (14), son of John,<sup>3</sup> married Deborah, the daughter of Dependence Stover, of York, Me., October 11, 1733, and had children:

- (<sup>23</sup>/<sub>12</sub>) I. JOHN,<sup>5</sup> born October 7, 1736. He is named in his grandfather's will, made May 10, 1748 (Appendix, page 23), and his widow and children are named in his father's will, made March 31, 1779. (Appendix, page 28.)
- (<sup>24</sup>/<sub>47</sub>) II. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> born October 18, 1738.
- (25) III. SUSANNA,<sup>5</sup> born Nov. 7, 1740, who married — Gould.
- (26) IV. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> born October 14, 1742.
- (27) V. DANIEL,<sup>5</sup> born October 14, 1745.

- (<sup>26</sup><sub>32</sub>) VI. DEPENDENCE,<sup>5</sup> born —. He and his mother were appointed executors of his father's will, which was proved October 29, 1779. His father's estate inventoried £4740.
- (29) VII. HANNAH,<sup>5</sup> born —, who married — Storer.
- (30) VIII. MARY,<sup>5</sup> born —.

NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> (20), usually designated by the title of "Town Clerk," married (probably in 1736) Dorothy Light, of Exeter, N. H., and had children:

- (31) I. DOROTHY,<sup>5</sup> born November 28, 1737.
- (<sup>32</sup><sub>38</sub>) II. NATHANIEL,<sup>5</sup> born October 28, 1740, died December 6, 1816.

Judge Wells, as Nathaniel<sup>5</sup> was usually called, "was, during his active life, one of the most valuable and distinguished of the inhabitants of Wells. His father, rightly estimating the importance of knowledge, and perceiving in his son evidences of an intellect which might bring him forward to honor and usefulness, determined to give him the benefit of a liberal education. He was accordingly fitted for college, and entered Harvard University in 1756, whence he graduated in 1760. He was there regarded as possessing endowments fitted to give him eminence and rank among the great men of the land. He was distinguished for strength of intellect, a tenacious memory, deep thought, and uncommon power of argumentation. He made great proficiency in the acquisition of science, taking a high stand among the students. He does not seem to have been inclined to either of the professions of the country. After graduation he resorted to the business of school-keeping, in which he employed himself many years. Afterwards, by the desire of his father, now far advanced in life, he returned to the old homestead in Wells, where he spent the remainder of his days. The people soon understood the value of such a man in the management of affairs of common interest. His sound and ripe judgment, quick perceptions, and general manliness of character, gave him a popularity among the townsmen which he never afterwards lost. He was, in consequence,

early placed in positions of responsibility. In 1770 he was one of the Selectmen of the town. In the trying period perceived by him to be rapidly approaching, in which the souls of men were to be tested, his opinions were received with great deference. We think, from the evidence which we have, that he was not immediately decided as to the course of action which the people ought to pursue. He was satisfied that England was wrong; that her assumption of rights over the Colonies was unwarranted. But what should be done by the feeble Colonies in opposition to her assumptions was not so easily settled. But he came to the determination that, as there was no reasonable alternative, the people must fight. Intelligence was received from Boston in May, 1773, that the liberties of the country were in peril; and Mr. Wells was appointed one of a committee of correspondence, to ascertain facts and determine upon the proper action of the town. In 1774 he was appointed a Justice of the Peace by Governor Hutchinson, which office he held, under various appointments, during life. His father, who was Town Clerk, died in 1776, and he was chosen to fill the vacancy. As there were then no such political excitements or party interests, disordering the public well-being, as have prevailed in later years, he was annually elected to the same office to the close of life. In 1779 he was chosen a delegate to the convention at Cambridge to form a constitution for the state of Massachusetts. In 1781 he was appointed by Gov. Hancock a Special Justice of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas; afterwards he was Chief Justice of the Court, representative to the Legislature, and member of the Senate, and selected for various fiduciary trusts. He was also a member of the convention at Boston holden for the purpose of determining the question whether the State would assent to the adoption of the proposed constitution of the United States. He was on the commission, with Samuel Phillips and Nathan Dane, who had in charge the management of the eastern lands. In fine, his services were sought for on all matters of public interest. He was the people's man, fitted for any station, and always ready for duty. His opinions carried with them great weight, and controlled the action of a majority of the people.

“The most prominent element of his intellectual character was a proclivity to argumentation. He was cotemporary with Dr. Hemmenway, who was one of the most eminent logicians of New England, and found much of his happiness in the discussion of those great questions which involved the eternal interests of men. On some of these questions there was a wide difference of sentiment between the two. Judge Wells was strongly Arminian, not differing much from the Unitarians of the present day. Whenever they came together, any suggestion of either adverse to the views of the other awakened at once a controversy, of which neither of them would ever weary. They had occasion to go to Berwick, to attend some council or association, and stopped at a public-house. Probably in continuation of a debate begun on the road, they there got into an animated discussion, which was continued to a late hour in the evening, when the Doctor said he would step out of doors a little while. The Judge responded he would go too. They went out together. The landlord waited and waited till his patience was exhausted. Not knowing what might have happened to cause such a strange detention, after twelve o'clock he went out to ascertain the status of the disputants. It is unnecessary to state where he found them. But they were still in the very heat of the controversy, each wide awake in defending and taking care of his own opinion. Neither of these men had any inclination to yield an opinion once formed. All arguments directed to that end were parried or neutralized in one way or another. They formed no judgment on any important matter without careful consideration, and thence felt that their conclusions were just; and therefore adhered to them with great tenacity. Yet they were men of a liberal and generous spirit, and entertained the kindest feelings toward each other. Judge Wells was a Deacon in Dr. Hemmenway's church, and was regarded by all as a man of stern integrity. Difference of theological speculation did not lead to denunciation or separation. The Church of Christ in those days, though it embodied a great variety of adverse thought, went forward harmoniously in the work of the Master.”

“Judge Wells was an exceedingly useful man. On all matters involving the interests of the town he was consulted with great confi-

dence. Politically he belonged to the Federal party, and was regarded as one of its most prominent supporters in the District of Maine.\*

- (33) III. ROBERT,<sup>5</sup> born February 6, 1743, died February 17, 1820.
- (34) IV. MARTHA,<sup>5</sup> born May 29, 1745.
- (35) V. JOHN LIGHT,<sup>5</sup> born November 29, 1747.
- (36) VI. EBENEZER,<sup>5</sup> born November 13, 1750, and died in infancy.

JOSHUA<sup>4</sup> (21), son of Thomas,<sup>3</sup> married, December 25, 1729, Meribah Littlefield, and had children :

- (37) I. JOSEPH,<sup>5</sup> born December 26, 1730.
- (38) II. SARAH,<sup>5</sup> born September 9, 1732.
- (39) III. LYDIA,<sup>5</sup> born April 26, 1734.
- (40) IV. THOMAS,<sup>5</sup> born January 10, 1736.
- (41) V. MERIBAH,<sup>5</sup> born December 9, 1737.
- (42) VI. JONATHAN,<sup>5</sup> born April 23, 1739, drowned while bathing.

JOHN<sup>5</sup> (23), son of John,<sup>4</sup> Jr., married Elizabeth —, and had children :

- (43) I. DANIEL,<sup>6</sup> born —.
- (44) II. JOHN,<sup>6</sup> born —.
- (45) III. EDMUND,<sup>6</sup> born —.
- (46) IV. ISAAC,<sup>6</sup> born —.
- (47) V. DEBORAH,<sup>6</sup> born —.

SAMUEL<sup>5</sup> (24), son of John,<sup>4</sup> Jr., married Meribah Lord, and had children :

- (48) I. SAMUEL,<sup>6</sup> born November 7, 1769.
- (49) II. SUSANNA,<sup>6</sup> born July 19, 1772.
- (50) III. ELIZABETH,<sup>6</sup> born November 25, 1775.
- (51) IV. EDWARD,<sup>6</sup> born September 4, 1777, died 1795.
- (52) V. SARAH,<sup>6</sup> born August 25, 1781, died in infancy.

\*The above is an extract from the manuscript History of the Town of Wells, Me., by the late Judge Edward E. Bourne, of Kennebunk, Me.

DEPENDENCE<sup>5</sup> (28), son of John,<sup>4</sup> Jr., married, 1772, Eleanor Kimball, and had children :

- (53) I. DEPENDENCE,<sup>6</sup> born March 4, 1778.
- (54) II. ELEANOR,<sup>6</sup> born January 15, 1785.
- (55) III. NOAH,<sup>6</sup> born March 25, 1787.
- (56) IV. ALICE,<sup>6</sup> born September 5, 1791.
- (57) V. MARY,<sup>6</sup> born January 30, 1794.
- (58) VI. EZRA,<sup>6</sup> born August 7, 1796.
- (59) VII. DEBORAH,<sup>6</sup> born June 5, 1798.
- (60) VIII. ASA,<sup>6</sup> born March 20, 1800.

Judge NATHANIEL<sup>5</sup> (32) married Abigail Winn, January 1, 1770, and had children :

- (61) I. DOROTHY,<sup>6</sup> born December 2, 1770.
- (<sup>62</sup>/<sub>88</sub>) II. NATHANIEL,<sup>6</sup> born July 13, 1774.

He graduated at Dartmouth College in 1795, and after having been engaged in mercantile business for sixteen years he entered the ministry. He studied theology with the Rev. Moses Hemmenway, D.D., of Wells, whose daughter he married in 1797. He was minister at Deerfield, N. H., from July 1, 1812, till September 1, 1841, when he resigned his pastoral charge.

- (<sup>63</sup>/<sub>93</sub>) III. DAVID,<sup>6</sup> born June 25, 1776.
- (64) IV. ABIGAIL,<sup>6</sup> born May 31, 1778.
- (65) V. THEODORE,<sup>6</sup> born May 10, 1780.
- (66) VI. TIMOTHY,<sup>6</sup> who died in infancy.

ROBERT WELLS<sup>5</sup> (33), married Abigail Jefferds, April 25, 1769. She was born at Wells, February 22, 1745, and was the youngest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Jefferds, who was born 1704, entered Harvard College from Salem, Mass., and graduated in 1722. He was ordained minister, at Wells, December, 1725, and died there February 5, 1752. He was the son of Simon Jefferds, of Salem, who emigrated from England (N. E. Gen. Register, vol. 1, page 45), though tradition says from Scotland. He married Sarah Wheel-

wright, who was born at Wells July 27, 1706. She was the daughter of Col. John Wheelwright, who was son of Judge Samuel Wheelwright, who was son of the Rev. John Wheelwright, who went to Wells as early as 1643. Of Col. John Wheelwright says Allen in his Biographical Dictionary, "He was the bulwark of Massachusetts against the assaults of French and Indians on the east." Robert<sup>s</sup> died February 17, 1820, and his wife Abigail October 15, 1803.

Robert Wells<sup>s</sup> (33), who married Abigail Jefferds April 25, 1769, had children born in Wells:

(<sup>67</sup><sub>95</sub>) I. EBENEZER,<sup>6</sup> born August 1, 1770. He was a clothier, and resided in Bristol, Me., and died there August, 1821.

(<sup>68</sup><sub>100</sub>) II. ROBERT,<sup>6</sup> born April 9, 1772. He moved to Lyman — was Deputy Sheriff there fourteen years. He afterwards moved to Embden, and died there December 27, 1827.

(<sup>69</sup><sub>108</sub>) III. DANIEL,<sup>6</sup> born January 19, 1774.

He went to Gray, Me., in 1796, and remained there till 1807, when he removed to Waterville, and remained there till March, 1832, when he again moved to Bloomfield, Me., where he died March 29, 1867. At the age of fourteen years he went to Major William Jefferds, of Kennebunk, as an apprentice to learn the clothier's trade. He served faithfully his term of apprenticeship of seven years. He pursued his trade as his principal business till he moved to Bloomfield, when he retired upon a farm with a competency, after having brought up a large family of children.

(<sup>70</sup><sub>119</sub>) IV. BARTHOLOMEW,<sup>6</sup> born July 8, 1776. Became a sea-captain. His home was in Wells, and he died there.

(<sup>71</sup><sub>125</sub>) V. MOSES,<sup>6</sup> born October 7, 1777. He lived in Wells, and died there in 1852.

(<sup>72</sup><sub>127</sub>) VI. WILLIAM,<sup>6</sup> born August 6, 1781. He removed to Brownville about 1830, and died there.

(73) VII. SUSANNA,<sup>6</sup> born July 30, 1783; married — Tibbets for her first husband, and Joshua Furbish for her second husband. She died —.

(74) VIII. MARTHA,<sup>6</sup> born September 12, 1785; died Dec. 27, 1869; married Joshua Littlefield, of Wells, and had children:

i. Martha,<sup>7</sup> born 1812; married Stephen Toby, and they had three children, Mary Ann,<sup>8</sup> Abby<sup>8</sup> and Stephen.<sup>8</sup> The family are all dead but Mary Ann, who married Daniel Page.

ii. Joshua E.,<sup>7</sup> born 1814; married Czarina Wood, and they have children: Elmas<sup>8</sup>; Adelia,<sup>8</sup> married, Feb. 17, 1869, James Higgins, Roselle, N. J.; Clarence,<sup>8</sup> married Miss Coffin; Marcellus,<sup>8</sup> married Isabel Warren; Marion Hortense,<sup>8</sup> married Charles Taylor.

iii. Mary Ann,<sup>7</sup> born 1816.

iv. Erastus,<sup>7</sup> born 1818; married, Dec. 5, 1850, Maria N. Thomas, who was born 1826. They had children: Marianna,<sup>8</sup> born in 1852; Charles Herbert,<sup>8</sup> born in 1854, and died August 31, 1861; Harriett Sproulls,<sup>8</sup> born in 1856.

v. Oliver B.,<sup>7</sup> born 1820; married Abby Caine, who died; he then married — Eaton, who died; and he then married —.

vi. Robert Wells,<sup>7</sup> born 1822.

(<sup>75</sup>/<sub>136</sub>) IX. THEODORE,<sup>6</sup> born November 29, 1788.

Was a sea-captain for several years, but in later years he quit the ocean, and lived upon a farm in Wells; was one of the leading citizens of the town, and, like many of his ancestors, was a Deacon in the church for many years. About 1826 he became an earnest advocate of the temperance cause, and circulated the first temperance pledge in his neighborhood, and assisted in forming the first temperance society there. He was also a very early advocate of the anti-slavery cause. He died April 4, 1871.

JOHN LIGHT WELLS<sup>5</sup> (35), married, August 10, 1772, Elizabeth Jeffers (who was a daughter of Samuel Jeffers, who was a son of the Rev. Samuel Jeffers), and had children:

(76) I. GEORGE,<sup>6</sup> born Jan. 20, 1776.



- (77) II. MARTHA,<sup>6</sup> born March 1, 1779.
- (78) III. RICHARD,<sup>6</sup> born Nov. 11, 1781.
- (79) IV. SAMUEL,<sup>6</sup> born June 14, 1784.
- (80) V. HANNAH,<sup>6</sup> born Dec. 11, 1786.
- (81) VI. OLIVE,<sup>6</sup> born Oct. 16, 1789.
- (82) VII. SARAH,<sup>6</sup> born April 28, 1792.
- (83) VIII. JOHN,<sup>6</sup> born Oct. 18, 1795.

JOSEPH<sup>5</sup> (37), son of Joshua,<sup>4</sup> married, 1772, Sarah Maddox, and had children :

- (84) I. JOSHUA,<sup>6</sup> born Aug. 16, 1765.
- (85) II. MERIBAH,<sup>6</sup> born July 27, 1767.
- (86) III. JOSEPH,<sup>6</sup> born March 22, 1769.
- (87) IV. JOTHAM,<sup>6</sup> born Oct. 17, 1771.
- (88) V. JEREMIAH,<sup>6</sup> born Oct. 13, 1775.

THOMAS<sup>5</sup> (40), son of Joshua<sup>4</sup>, married, 1758, Adah Cole.

JOSHUA<sup>6</sup> (84), son of Joseph<sup>5</sup> and grandson of Joshua<sup>4</sup>, married, Aug. 16, 1789, Mary Gillpatrick.

NATHANIEL<sup>6</sup> (62), minister, of Deerfield, N. H., and son of Judge Nathaniel,<sup>5</sup> married, Oct. 12, 1797, Eunice Hemmenway, and had children :

- (89) I. MARCIA,<sup>7</sup> born July 17, 1798.
- (90) II. ABIGAIL,<sup>7</sup> born April 15, 1800, and died at the age of two years.
- (91) III. NATHANIEL,<sup>7</sup> born Sept. 29, 1801, who is now a resident of Great Falls, N. H.
- (92) IV. THEODORE,<sup>7</sup> born Feb. 21, 1807.
- (93) V. MOSES HEMMENWAY.<sup>7</sup>

+ 7 more (at least)

DAVID<sup>6</sup> (63), son of Judge Nathaniel,<sup>5</sup> married, July 17, 1798, Mary Storer, and had children :

- (94) I. HANNAH,<sup>7</sup> born May 17, 1799.
- (95) II. DAVID,<sup>7</sup> born Sept. 22, 1801, and died in 1803.

EBENEZER<sup>6</sup> (67) married, April 7, 1791, at Berwick, Me., Hannah, daughter of Peaslee Morrill. She died at Cumberland, Me., September 10, 1848. Their children were:

- (96) I. PEASLEE M.,<sup>7</sup> who died at Bristol, Me., 1858. He married, but had no children.
- (<sup>97</sup>/<sub>141</sub>) II. DANIEL,<sup>7</sup> who removed to Sumpter, S. C., and died there in 1864.
- (<sup>98</sup>/<sub>144</sub>) III. ROBERT,<sup>7</sup> who removed to Orono, Me., and died there.
- (<sup>99</sup>/<sub>150</sub>) IV. EBENEZER,<sup>7</sup> born March 9, 1801, at Warren, Me. Became a physician; settled at Freeport, Me., and now resides there. He was a professor for several years in the Medical School at Bowdoin College.
- (100) V. ABBY JEFFERDS,<sup>7</sup> who married, at Freeport, Paul Prince, and died at New Gloucester, Me., May 8, 1871. She had three children: Howard L.,<sup>8</sup> Frederick<sup>8</sup> and Mary.<sup>8</sup>

ROBERT<sup>6</sup> (68) married, March 28, 1792, at Wells, Mary Littlefield, who was born at Wells Sept. 16, 1771. She died August 5, 1853. They first moved to Lyman, and there had children:

- (101) I. MERCY,<sup>7</sup> born Oct. 14, 1793; married, Sept. 18, 1815, Foster Palmer; settled in Solon; had no children; died Sept. 24, 1816.
- (<sup>102</sup>/<sub>154</sub>) H. RALPH,<sup>7</sup> born Dec. 11, 1796; settled in Embden, and died there April 23, 1862.
- (103) III. ABIGAIL,<sup>7</sup> born Dec. 6, 1800; married, July 21, 1839, John W. Morrin. Settled in Concord; had a son, William J.,<sup>8</sup> born June 21, 1840. She died in Concord April 18, 1862.
- (<sup>104</sup>/<sub>164</sub>) IV. ROBERT,<sup>7</sup> born April 28, 1802; now resides at West Waterville.
- (105) V. MARY,<sup>7</sup> born Dec. 28, 1804; married, Nov. 25, 1830, William Sally. First settled in Embden, then in Skowhegan—her first husband died there in 1860. She married again, then moved to Solon. Her second husband died in six weeks from his marriage. She lives with his children, having none of her own.

- (<sup>106</sup>/<sub>108</sub>) VI. HORACE,<sup>7</sup> born April 15, 1808. First settled in Embden, then went to Louisiana, and died there June 21, 1838.
- (107) VII. BELINDA,<sup>7</sup> born Feb. 20, 1811.
- (108) VIII. SOPHRONIA J.,<sup>7</sup> born Oct. 25, 1813; married, Jan. 5, 1839, Isaiah Felter, a farmer. Settled in Concord. Had five children:
- Faustina C.,<sup>8</sup> born May 3, 1840.
  - Almon H.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 2, 1842.
  - Hannah P.,<sup>8</sup> born Dec. 24, 1844; died May 16, 1854.
  - Mark L.,<sup>8</sup> born March 17, 1848; died Nov. 11, 1869.
  - Isaiah L.,<sup>8</sup> born June 2, 1856; died March 26, 1861.

DANIEL<sup>6</sup> (69) married, Nov. 16, 1797, at Gray, Susannah Sweetser, who was born at North Yarmouth March 5, 1780, and died at Waterville July 28, 1820. She was the daughter of Richard Sweetser, who married Sarah Mathews. The children of Daniel Wells and his wife Susannah were:

- (109) I. SARAH JEFFERDS,<sup>7</sup> born at Gray Sept. 29, 1798, and married at Waterville, Feb. 20, 1823, David Parker, who died June 6, 1842. She now resides at Janesville, Wis. The children of David and Sarah Parker were:
- I. Susan W.,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 26, 1824.
  - II. Sumner,<sup>8</sup> born Feb. 13, 1825; married, March 27, 1850, Mercy Clarinda Fairbrother, of West Waterville, Maine.
  - III. Abigail W.,<sup>8</sup> born July 25, 1826; married, March 1851, Albert F. Adams, of Skowhegan, Me.; and died June 25, 1852.
  - IV. John E.,<sup>8</sup> born March 3, 1828; married, Oct. 2, 1854, Harriett E. Haskell, of Portland, Me.
  - V. David,<sup>8</sup> Jr., born Nov. 22, 1829; married, Oct. 31, 1863, Abigail N. Greely, of Portland, Me.
  - VI. Olive D.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 18, 1831.

- vii. Daniel W.,<sup>8</sup> born June 26, 1833; married, Dec. 25, 1865, Sarah Frances Wells, daughter of Hon. H. N. Wells, late of Milwaukee.
  - viii. Gustavus A.,<sup>8</sup> born March 11, 1836; married, Oct. 5, 1862, Mary Stevens, of Waterville, Me.
  - ix. George W.,<sup>8</sup> born March 24, 1838; died Aug. 24, 1840.
  - x. Sarah E.,<sup>8</sup> born March 18, 1840; married, Aug. 23, 1863, Amos B. Mathews, of St. Albans.
- (110) II. RUFUS,<sup>7</sup> born at Gray Sept. 13, 1800, died —.
- (111)<sup>5</sup> III. EMELINE,<sup>7</sup> born at Gray June 26, 1802.
- (112) IV. ABIGAIL,<sup>7</sup> born at Gray June 29, 1804, and married at Waterville, December 8, 1831, Joshua Burgess. They resided at Fairfield from 1831 till 1836, when they moved to Bloomfield, Me., where they resided on the old homestead of her father till 1867. They then moved to Greenfield, Wis., where she died December 2, 1872. They had three children :
- i. Susan E.,<sup>8</sup> born Feb. 19, 1833; died Oct. 10, 1849.
  - ii. Marcia E.,<sup>8</sup> born March 13, 1836; married, Sept. 7, 1857, Andrews N. Dickson, of Milwaukee, Wis., and had children :
    - Susan B.,<sup>9</sup> born Sept. 18, 1858.
    - Isabel M.,<sup>9</sup> born May 17, 1861.
    - William A.,<sup>9</sup> born Oct. 29, 1863.
    - Edgar N.,<sup>9</sup> born April 16, 1866.
    - Philip W.,<sup>9</sup> born Sept. 16, 1868.
    - Abigail W.,<sup>9</sup> born Aug. 3, 1871.
  - iii. Charles M.,<sup>8</sup> born May 3, 1840; died Aug. 22, 1842.
- (113) V. JOHN M.,<sup>7</sup> born at Gray July 9, 1806, a day memorable on account of the "great eclipse" of the sun.

When quite young he studied "navigation." He had a great desire to go to sea, but after one or two unpleasant voyages he abandoned a sailor's life. He afterwards attended the Bloomfield Aca-

demy, and there studied the Latin and Greek languages under Preceptor James Hall, a distinguished Scotch teacher, and became a good classical scholar. In March, 1828, he went to South Carolina, and engaged in teaching in a planter's family. The next year he went to Georgia, and from there to Florida. He remained in those States, teaching the most of the time, till 1836, when he returned to his native State. Early in the fall of that year he went to Milwaukee, and remained with his brother Daniel till November. Then, with John W. Robinson, he went to the State of Mississippi and engaged in trade, which proved unsuccessful. In 1848 he came to Milwaukee,—his health much impaired by the Southern climate,—where he died Nov. 18, 1852. He was from boyhood to the time of his death a great lover and reader of books, and had a remarkably retentive memory. He was familiar with the works of all the great authors, and there were few books within his reach, worth reading, which he had not read.

(114) VI. DANIEL,<sup>7</sup> Jr., born July 16, 1808, in the town of Waterville, at the old homestead, about one and a half miles below the village.

When a boy, he worked on his father's farm and in his clothing-mill during the summer seasons, and in the winters he attended the district school, till he was eighteen years old, when he became himself a teacher in a district school. As soon as he was twenty-one years old he started out in business for himself. In the fall of 1830 he went to Florida, and during the following winter he was engaged in surveying the United States lands on the St. Mary's River, in that Territory. He returned to Maine in 1831, and in the fall of that year he engaged in trade at Palmyra, in which he continued till 1835. He married, November 23, 1831, Marcia Bryant, of Anson, Me. In July, 1835, he first came to Wisconsin. He attended, in August, the United States land sale at Green Bay, and made, for himself and W. W. Gilman, large purchases of land at Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and other places. In October he returned to Maine. In April, 1836, he came with his wife to Milwaukee, where they have since resided. After the organization of the Territory of Wis-

consin in 1836, he was the first Justice of the Peace appointed by Governor Dodge, the first Governor of the Territory. In 1838 he was elected to the Council of the Territory from the Milwaukee Council District. He was elected a representative in Congress from the Milwaukee District in 1852, and again in 1854. He has held various other offices of public trust, both in Maine and Wisconsin. In 1836 he surveyed into lots Walker's Point Addition, and several other tracts of land which now form the most valuable parts of the First and Seventh Wards of the city of Milwaukee. He was early engaged in promoting the construction of the railroads first built in this State. He was one of the Commissioners to procure subscriptions to commence the construction of the railroad from Milwaukee to Waukesha, now known as part of the Prairie du Chien Division of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway; and while in Congress he did much to secure land grants to aid in building railroads in this State and Minnesota. He has been president of railroad companies in both States. In 1851 he went to Europe, visiting England, Ireland, Scotland and Paris. He attended the Great Exposition in London as Commissioner of Wisconsin, and returned home in the spring of 1852. In August 1869 he went to Colorado and California, and returned in November. Since he came to Wisconsin he has been a Justice of the Peace, Judge of Probate, Under-sheriff, surveyor, contractor, farmer, hotel-keeper, merchant, banker and lumberman. He has also been a large owner of real estate. His principal business is now confined to real estate and the lumber business.

(115) VII. SUSAN J.,<sup>7</sup> born at Waterville Oct. 7, 1810. She came to Milwaukee in 1837, and has since resided there. She married, Oct. 31, 1839, William Brown, Jr., of Milwaukee, who died June 17, 1862. They had five children:

1. Marcia B.,<sup>8</sup> born Dec. 12, 1841; married, Aug. 14, 1867, Edward Ferguson, of Milwaukee, Wis., and had children:
  - William E.,<sup>9</sup> born May 17, 1868.
  - Louise D.,<sup>9</sup> born April 4, 1870; died Oct. 5, 1871.

- ii. Martha Augusta,<sup>8</sup> born May 19, 1844; died July 21, 1845.
  - iii. Florence W.,<sup>8</sup> born July 17, 1847.
  - iv. Charles W.,<sup>8</sup> born May 14, 1849; died Aug. 31, 1850.
  - v. Clara D.,<sup>8</sup> born May 6, 1851; died July 9, 1853.
- (116) VIII. ELIZA JANE,<sup>7</sup> born at Waterville Feb. 13, 1813; died Aug. 31, 1815.
- (117) IX. HANNAH A.,<sup>7</sup> born at Waterville March 21, 1815; married, at Bloomfield, Me., June 15, 1837, Jotham S. Pratt, who died at Old Town, Me., Sept. 29, 1855. She came to Wisconsin in 1866, and now resides at Waukesha. Jotham and Hannah Pratt had children:\*
- i. Helen E.,<sup>8</sup> born May 13, 1839.
  - ii. Emeline W.,<sup>8</sup> born July 13, 1841; married, Oct. 8, 1860, Frank B. VanValkenburgh, of Milwaukee, Wis., and had:
    - Frank P.,<sup>9</sup> born June 8, 1863.
    - Helen,<sup>9</sup> born May 17, 1870.
  - iii. Mary A. W.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 30, 1845; died April 23, 1847.
  - iv. Charles G.,<sup>8</sup> born April 26, 1848; married, Nov. 26, 1872, Anna Harrington, and had:
    - Charles K.,<sup>9</sup> born Dec. 9, 1873.
  - v. Stephen S.,<sup>8</sup> born Oct. 26, 1850.
  - vi. John M. W.,<sup>8</sup> born Oct. 4, 1852.
- (<sup>118</sup>/<sub>170</sub>) X. CHARLES K.,<sup>7</sup> born at Waterville December 22, 1817. Attended China Academy from Sept., 1836, to Aug., 1838; entered Waterville College Sept. 1838, and the Junior Class of Yale College Sept. 1840, and graduated there in 1842. Resided in Virginia from Dec. 1842 till April 1847; was admitted to the bar Jan. 21, 1846; came to Milwaukee April 19, 1847, and has since resided there.

\*In a few instances, contrary to the general rule, some of the descendants of the female descendants are named, but not numbered.

- (<sup>119</sup>/<sub>176</sub>) XI. WILLIAM S.,<sup>7</sup> born at Waterville May 27, 1820. Came to Milwaukee in 1838; was elected Register of Deeds of Milwaukee County in 1846; was engaged in trade at Milwaukee from 1846 till 1864; resides now in the town of Wauwatosa.

Daniel Wells<sup>6</sup> (69) married, Oct. 1821, Mary Burgess, who was a daughter of Josiah Burgess, of Fairfield, Me. She was born July 1775, and died at Skowhegan April 12, 1873.

BARTHOLOMEW<sup>6</sup> (70) married, August 9, 1800, Susanna Clark, youngest child of Adam and Sally Clark, born in 1780 and died Nov. 29, 1871. They had children:

- (120) I. ABIGAIL,<sup>7</sup> born May 22, 1801; died in Boston, June 28, 1871.  
 (<sup>121</sup>/<sub>177</sub>) II. RICHARD,<sup>7</sup> born Sept. 22, 1803; died July 27, 1851.  
 (122) III. ADAM,<sup>7</sup> born Oct. 5, 1805; died Aug. 31, 1869.  
 (123) IV. SARAH,<sup>7</sup> born Feb. 18, 1809, who resides in Boston.  
 (124) V. BARTHOLOMEW,<sup>7</sup> born Aug. 4, 1810.  
 (125) VI. ALEXANDER,<sup>7</sup> born July 12, 1815; died about 1865, leaving a widow and several children.

MOSES<sup>6</sup> (71) married Dorcas Littlefield of Wells, and had children:

- (126) I. ANN MARIA,<sup>7</sup> born January 14, 1811. She married J. Staples, of Wells, and has two sons.  
 (127) II. MOSES,<sup>7</sup> born Dec. 28, 1811; died Dec. 28, 1814.

WILLIAM<sup>6</sup> (72) married, Sept. 1, 1803, Lydia Clark, and had children:

- (128) I. ABIGAIL JEFFERDS,<sup>7</sup> born Jan. 29, 1804.  
 (129) II. RHODA,<sup>7</sup> born Sept. 28, 1805.  
 (130) III. MOSES,<sup>7</sup> born Nov. 30, 1807.  
 (131) IV. ROBERT,<sup>7</sup> born Jan. 15, 1809.  
 (132) V. WILLIAM,<sup>7</sup> born Dec. 21, 1811.  
 (133) VI. BENJAMIN W.,<sup>7</sup> born Aug. 5, 1814.



- (134) VII. ELI,<sup>7</sup> born April 15, 1816.  
 (135) VIII. LYDIA,<sup>7</sup> born June 11, 1817.  
 (136) IX. NANCY,<sup>7</sup> born Sept. 15, 1819.

William<sup>6</sup> (72) also married a second wife.

THEODORE<sup>6</sup> (75) married, August 31, 1809, Frances Littlefield, who died Oct. 16, 1862, and they had children :

- (<sup>137</sup>/<sub>183</sub>) I. THEODORE,<sup>7</sup> born June 9, 1811, who was State Senator from York County in 1859.  
 (138) II. NANCY,<sup>7</sup> born Nov. 20, 1813 ; died Dec. 19, 1841.  
 (139) III. SYLVIA,<sup>7</sup> born Feb. 6, 1817 ; died Aug. 30, 1819.  
 (140) IV. LEONARD,<sup>7</sup> born Oct. 24, 1818 ; died June 8, 1844.  
 (141) V. FRANKLIN,<sup>7</sup> born Feb. 4, 1821.

Theodore<sup>6</sup> (75) married Mrs. Abby Littlefield for a second wife.

DANIEL<sup>7</sup> (97), son of Ebenezer,<sup>6</sup> married, and had children :

- (142) I. E. M.,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (143) II. WILLIAM,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (144) III. THOMAS,<sup>8</sup> born ——.

ROBERT<sup>7</sup> (98), son of Ebenezer,<sup>6</sup> married, and had children :

- (145) I. HANNAH,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (146) II. LUCY,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (147) III. EMILY,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (148) IV. ABBY,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (149) V. LIZZIE,<sup>8</sup> born ——.  
 (150) VI. SARAH,<sup>8</sup> born ——.

Dr. EBENEZER<sup>7</sup> (99), son of Ebenezer,<sup>6</sup> married, at Bath, Me., Oct. 19, 1823, Lydia M. Sewall, who died Nov. 17, 1829, and had children :

- (<sup>151</sup>/<sub>193</sub>) I. WILLIAM S.,<sup>8</sup> born Sept. 8, 1824, who is a lawyer at Suisun City, Cal.

(152) II. ELIZA S.,<sup>8</sup> born Sept. 8, 1826, who married — Britton, and had children: Henry L.,<sup>9</sup> Walter,<sup>9</sup> and John W.<sup>9</sup> Britton.

(153) III. SARAH M.,<sup>8</sup> born March 19, 1829.

Dr. Ebenezer<sup>7</sup> married, at Freeport, August 29, 1831, Mary C. Hyde, and by her had children:

(154) IV. GEORGE F.,<sup>8</sup> born June 30, 1835.

V. JOHN A. H.,<sup>8</sup> born —; died June 1, 1854.

RALPH<sup>7</sup> (102) married, Nov. 30, 1820, at Embden, Mercy Clark, and had children:

(155) I. EUNICE,<sup>8</sup> born Sept. 16, 1822; married, June 30, 1844, Luke Hilton.

(156) II. HELENA,<sup>8</sup> born Feb. 22, 1824; married, May 6, 1845, Timothy C. Spaulding.

(157) III. MERCY,<sup>8</sup> born Oct. 14, 1826; married, April 8, 1854, Nason S. Whitcomb.

(<sup>158</sup>/<sub>194</sub>) IV. ROBERT G.,<sup>8</sup> born March 2, 1828.

(159) V. SUSAN C.,<sup>8</sup> born Oct. 8, 1829; married, Aug. 9, 1850, Calvin Williams.

(160) VI. STATIA,<sup>8</sup> born Dec. 12, 1831; married, April 3, 1851, Joseph Atkinson.

(161) VII. RALPH S.,<sup>8</sup> born May 21, 1835; died Jan. 31, 1851.

(162) VIII. ACHSA,<sup>8</sup> born Feb. 22, 1838; married, Nov. 3, 1859, Leander Witham, and resides in New Portland.

(<sup>163</sup>/<sub>198</sub>) IX. STILSON,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 19, 1840; now resides in Iowa.

(164) X. CELINDA,<sup>8</sup> born Nov. 16, 1842; died Nov. 27, 1842.

XI. MANDEL,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 31, 1844; married, Dec. 1871, in Michigan.

ROBERT<sup>7</sup> (104) married, at Sidney, April 20, 1830, Mary C. Sawtell, who was born Aug. 31, 1805. They had children:

(165) I. ELVIRA M.,<sup>8</sup> born at Embden Jan. 20, 1831; married, Nov. 8, 1853, at West Waterville, Albert Wheeler; had one child,—Eliza Jane. Her husband dying, she

married a second time, Jan. 17, 1864, Cyrus W. Gilman, and died Sept. 14, 1864.

- (166) II. CLYMENA W.,<sup>8</sup> born at Embden March 28, 1833; married, Nov. 2, 1853, at Lawrence, Mass., Benjamin Y. Gammon. Had one child,—Flora L.<sup>9</sup>
- (167) III. ALONZO M.,<sup>8</sup> born at Concord Oct. 28, 1836; died in infancy.
- (<sup>166</sup><sub>200</sub>) IV. HOWARD W.,<sup>8</sup> born at Concord May 14, 1838.

HORACE<sup>7</sup> (106) married, Dec. 13, 1834, Nancy Berry, and had children:

- (169) I. SEBASTIAN.<sup>8</sup>
- (170) II. HORACE.<sup>8</sup>

CHARLES K.<sup>7</sup> (118) married, at West Waterville, Me., Sept. 19, 1853, Sarah Hitchings (born May 8, 1830), daughter of Capt. Joseph Hitchings, and had children:

- (171) I. ALICE,<sup>8</sup> born April 22, 1858; died Aug. 31, 1858.
- (172) II. GERTRUDE W.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 18, 1859.
- (173) III. CHARLES W.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 28, 1861.
- (174) IV. MARY E.,<sup>8</sup> born Oct. 22, 1864.
- (175) V. SUSAN P.,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 23, 1867.
- (176) VI. HORACE,<sup>8</sup> born Sept. 4, 1869.

WILLIAM S.<sup>7</sup> (119) married, at Milwaukee, Sept. 18, 1848, Mrs. Lucinda Smith, formerly Miss Lucinda Bryant, who died at Wauwatosa Nov. 21, 1863. They had:

- (177) I. HARRISON L.,<sup>8</sup> born July 31, 1850; died Feb. 28, 1854.

RICHARD<sup>7</sup> (121) married, Dec. 11, 1833, Tabitha Littlefield, of Wells, born Oct. 22, 1811, and died Aug. 20, 1868. They had children:

- (178) I. MARY ANN,<sup>8</sup> born Feb. 23, 1835; married, April 29, 1857, at Boston, George Wright, and had one child, Gertrude M.<sup>9</sup> Wright, born June 19, 1858. George

Wright died in New York City. She married, at Milwaukee, Oct. 26, 1869, John Wilson, of Chicago.

- (<sup>179</sup><sub>202</sub>) II. JOHN STORER,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 12, 1837.
- (<sup>180</sup><sub>203</sub>) III. ALEXANDER B.,<sup>8</sup> born April 20, 1840.
- (181) IV. SARAH A.,<sup>8</sup> born Dec. 10, 1843; married, June 4, 1868, George Carey, of Waltham, Mass., and died Sept. 20, 1872.
- (182) V. CHARLES W.,<sup>8</sup> born June 3, 1847, who resides at Marshalltown, Iowa.
- (183) VI. SUSAN FANNIE,<sup>8</sup> born April 25, 1849; married, at Wells, Aug. 19, 1869, William H. Flanders, of Boston.

THEODORE,<sup>7</sup> Jr., (137) married, Feb. 23, 1837, Mary Storer, who died Jan. 24, 1864. They had children:

- (184) I. SYLVIA,<sup>8</sup> born May 19, 1838; died Oct. 29, 1862.
- (185) II. SARAH E.,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 15, 1840.
- (186) III. CHARLES,<sup>8</sup> born March 6, 1843; died Oct. 3, 1858.
- (187) IV. THEODORE,<sup>8</sup> born Sept. 5, 1845; died Nov. 22, 1855.
- (188) V. WILLIAM S.,<sup>8</sup> born May 29, 1848.
- (189) VI. LEONARD,<sup>8</sup> born Dec. 12, 1851.
- (190) VII. JENNIE M.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 20, 1854.

Theodore,<sup>7</sup> Jr. (137) married, Oct. 2, 1865, Martha M. Goodwin (second wife), and had children:

- (191) VIII. SYLVIA M.,<sup>8</sup> born Aug. 12, 1866.
- (192) IX. ANNAH F.,<sup>8</sup> born Jan. 24, 1869.
- (193) X. HERBERT,<sup>8</sup> born April 20, 1872.

WILLIAM S.<sup>8</sup> (151), son of Dr. Eben,<sup>7</sup> of Freeport, Me., married, and had:

- (194) I. WILLIAM S.,<sup>9</sup> born —.

ROBERT G.<sup>8</sup> (153), son of Ralph,<sup>7</sup> married, June 10, 1855, Josephine Durrell, who was born June 21, 1828, and had children:

- (195) I. ORIN D.,<sup>9</sup> born Sept. 10, 1856.

- (196) II. FRANKLIN W.,<sup>9</sup> born Aug. 19, 1859.
- (197) III. WALTER S.,<sup>9</sup> born March 6, 1866.
- (198) IV. ORRILLA E.,<sup>9</sup> born Aug. 31, 1868.

STILSON<sup>8</sup> (163), son of Ralph,<sup>7</sup> married, Sept. 17, 1863, Olive Dunton, and has :

- (199) I. WINIFRED,<sup>9</sup> born June 1864.
- (200) II. HERMAN,<sup>9</sup> born Feb. 1867.

HOWARD W.<sup>8</sup> (168), son of Robert,<sup>7</sup> married, Sept. 9, 1865, at Sidney, Me., Almira P. Goff, who died Jan. 30, 1866. He married, in Boston, Mass., May 19, 1867, Sophronia G. Oliver, who was born at Garland, Me., Jan. 24, 1836, and had children :

- (201) I. MYRA L.,<sup>9</sup> born at Roxbury, Mass., June 14, 1868.
- (202) II. MARCIA E.,<sup>9</sup> born at Boston Highlands Nov. 3, 1870.

JOHN S.<sup>8</sup> (179) married, April 16, 1867, in Davenport, Iowa, Abigail Carver, and had :

- (203) I. FANNIE.<sup>9</sup>

ALEXANDER B.<sup>8</sup> (180) married, May 14, 1865, A. Mary Anderson, who died Sept. 1872, and had three children :

- (204) I. LILLIAN.<sup>9</sup>
- (205) II. WESLEY.<sup>9</sup>
- (206) III. ———.<sup>9</sup>

The connection of the following persons, whose marriages and births are found on the town records of Wells, is not known :

(207) JOHN WELLS (who may have been (44) John<sup>6</sup>) married Susanna Wells June 21, 1792, and had children :

- (208) I. JANE, born July 6, 1795.
- (209) II. SUSAN, born July 15, 1805.
- (210) III. ELIZA, born May 15, 1807.

(211) GEORGE WELLS (perhaps a son of (35) John Light Wells) married Deborah Wells Dec. 12, 1799, and had children :

- (212) I. JOSEPH, born Sept. 20, 1800.
- (213) II. SAMUEL, born Jan. 31, 1803.
- (214) III. ELIZABETH, born April 24, 1806.
- (215) IV. MARTHA, born Sept. 21, 1810.

(216) WILLIAM WELLS (perhaps a son of (21) Joshua<sup>4</sup>) married, Dec. 27, 1768, Martha Bridges, and had children :

- (217) I. JOSEPH, born Jan. 30, 1782.
- (218) II. OLIVE, born —.

(219) WILLIAM WELLS, Jr., married, June 27, 1803, Mary Howard, and had children :

- (220) I. HANSON, born Feb. 13, 1805.
- (221) II. SAMUEL, born Feb. 12, 1808.

(222) DANIEL WELLS (who may have been (43) Daniel<sup>6</sup>) married, in 1786, Meribah Wells, and had children :

- (223) I. SARAH, born Oct. 1786.
- (224) II. JONAH, born Feb. 1, 1789.
- (225) III. BETSEY, born March 1791.
- (226) IV. ABIGAIL, born July 10, 1794.
- (227) V. NANCY, born Aug. 23, 1796.
- (228) VI. LAURA, born Sept. 29, 1799.
- (229) VII. ISAAC, born March 23, 1802.

(230) DANIEL WELLS married, in 1805, Hannah Boothby, and had children :

- (231) I. ABRAHAM, born Jan. 12, 1806.
- (232) II. HANNAH, born March 21, 1808.
- (233) III. DANIEL, born May 9, 1810.
- (234) IV. JOSHUA, born Aug. 25, 1812.
- (235) V. HENRY, born Jan. 8, 1818.

## NOTE TO PAGE 10—CORRECTION.

I am of the opinion that the town of Wells, Me., took its name from the city of Wells, in Somerset County, England, instead of the town of Wells, in Norfolk County; as in the neighborhood of that city Sir Ferdinand Gorges and his associates resided, under whose government the town of Wells, Me., first organized about 1642. Gorges gave the county the name of Somersetshire, without doubt from the county of Somerset, in England, in which he resided.

C. K. W.

A BRIEF SKETCH  
OF THE  
FAMILY OF REV. THOMAS WELLS,  
*First Minister of Amesbury, Mass.*

BY D. W. HOYT, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

REV. THOMAS WELLS was settled as first pastor of the first church in Amesbury, in 1672 or 1673. Occasional preaching had been enjoyed in the "new town" for ten or twenty years before that time, but he was the first who was recognized as the town's minister. A committee were chosen May 11, 1672, "to see if they can obtain Mr Weels to be helpfull to us in the work of the Ministry." He was admitted as a commoner in 1673-4, and was evidently a man of much influence and usefulness in the new town.

Various circumstances render it extremely probable, if not almost certain, that Rev. Thomas Wells was the Thomas Wells who was born Jan. 11, 1646-7, youngest son of Dea. Thomas Wells of Ipswich. The generations of the family are here numbered in accordance with that idea, Dea. Thomas being considered the first, and Rev. Thomas the second generation. If the above is the date of the birth of Thomas,<sup>2</sup> he must have been eighty-seven years six months old at the time of his death. According to the inscription on his tombstone he was then in his "eighty-seventh year"; but that may have been intended to imply that he was between eighty-seven and eighty-eight, though the expression, if properly used, would justify Farmer's statement that his age was eighty-six. Thomas' Wells of Ipswich was "a gentleman of large property," and it has been supposed that he was a physician. He had land granted to him at Ipswich in 1635, and took the Freeman's oath at Boston May 17, 1637. He died October 26, 1666. From a branch of his family the town of Wells, Me., took its name.



By his will, Thomas made provision for his son's "going to College"; but his name is not to be found among the early graduates of any American college. Rev. Thomas Wells enjoyed the distinction, however, of being the first individual who received the honorary degree of A.M. from Harvard College. In the triennial catalogue of 1727 his name is put at the bottom of the class of 1669; in 1745, perhaps earlier, it was separated from the others by a line, and 1703 added. In 1830 the names of those who had received honorary and *ad eundem* degrees were made a distinct division of the catalogue, and Thomas Wells was placed at the head of the list, under the year 1703. It is possible that he may have been at one time a member of the class of 1669; but if he received the degree in 1703 he must then have been fifty-six years old, and his name might have been placed under 1669 only because that class were near his own age.

A copy of the will of Rev. Thomas Wells is to be found on the Probate Records at Salem. It was dated August 7, 1728, proved July 29, 1734. He there mentions four sons, three daughters, four daughters-in-law, and two sons-in-law; three sons and one daughter-in-law having died before that time. John Martin, the other son-in-law, is not mentioned. The dates of the deaths of Mr. Thomas Wells and his wife, as given on the town records, correspond with the inscriptions copied below, except that the double date, 1726-7, is given. From the spelling and appearance of the inscription one would suppose Mr. Wells's tombstone to be of later date than those around it.

Interred here the body of  
the Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. THOMAS WELLS.  
first Pastor of the first Church  
of CHRIST in Amesbury. who  
Departed this life July y<sup>e</sup> 10<sup>th</sup>.  
1734. in the 87<sup>th</sup> year of his  
Age, & the 62<sup>d</sup>. of his Ministry,  
having served his Generation by  
the will of GOD, he fell on sleep, and  
(we trust) enjoys a Prophets reward.  
for tho' Israel should not  
be Gathered, yet would  
the faithfull ministers of  
the Gospell, be glorious  
in the Eyes of the Lord.

INTERRED HERE THE BODY  
OF M<sup>rs</sup> MARY WELLS  
DEC<sup>d</sup> IANUARY THE 26<sup>th</sup>  
1727 AGED 75 YEARS  
LATE WIFE OF M<sup>r</sup> THOMAS  
WELLS

DEATH IS NOT DUMB IT BIDS US ALL  
PREPARE BEFORE BY IT WE FALL  
WE KNOW NOT HOW NOR WHERE NOR W  
FIT NOW OR NEUR WE CANNOT THEN HEN

Children of Rev. Mr. Thomas<sup>s</sup> Wells and wife Mary :

- ( 1 ) I. JOHN,<sup>3</sup> born Feb. 2, 1672 ; probably died April 2, 1673.
- ( <sup>2</sup>/<sub>10</sub> ) II. LUKE,<sup>3</sup> born March 19, 1673-4 ; married Wid. Dorothy Trull, of Haverhill, ent. int. Dec. 9, 1710. Wife Dorothy died Sept. 29, 1715.
- ( <sup>3</sup>/<sub>13</sub> ) III. TITUS,<sup>3</sup> born March 14, 1675 ; married Joanna —. A Titus Wells was an inhabitant of the West Parish in 1726.
- ( 4 ) IV. A SON,<sup>3</sup> born —. In his will, 1728, Thomas<sup>s</sup> mentions his daughter-in-law Rebecca Wells, late, "now Barrett," and his granddaughter Rebecca, late Wells, "now Waters." These may have been the widow and daughter of a son who died previous to 1728. If so, the widow Rebecca married — Barrett, and the daughter Rebecca<sup>4</sup> married — Waters.
- ( 5 ) V. A SON,<sup>3</sup> born — ; probably died before 1728, and without issue. John<sup>3</sup> is called the "seventh son," and hence there must have been two sons whose names are unknown to us, here numbered 4 and 5.
- ( 6 ) VI. ABIGAIL,<sup>3</sup> born — ; married Samuel Bartlett of Newbury, Feb. 6, 1704-5.
- ( 7 ) VII. MARY,<sup>3</sup> born — ; married John Martin of Amesbury, July 15, 1702.
- ( <sup>8</sup>/<sub>23</sub> ) VIII. ELIEZER,<sup>3</sup> born June 10, 1686 ; married Deborah Worthen of Amesbury, Nov. 17, 1714.

- (9) IX. ELIZABETH,<sup>3</sup> born Dec. 17, 1688; married Moses Chase, Jr., of Newbury, Oct. 12, 1709.
- (10) X. JOHN,<sup>3</sup> born Oct. 9, 1692; married Dorothy<sup>4</sup> Hoyt, of Amesbury, Feb. 5, 1712-3. Will dated May 1768, proved Dec. 24, 1776. Wife Dorothy died April 28, 1769, in her seventy-seventh year.

Children of (2) LUKE<sup>3</sup> and Dorothy Wells:

- (11) I. JOHN,<sup>4</sup> born March 17, 1710-1.
- (12) II. OBADIAH,<sup>4</sup> born June 27, 1712; married Judith ——. Children: Dorothy,<sup>5</sup> born 1738; Lydia,<sup>5</sup> born 1740; Sarah,<sup>5</sup> born 1742; perhaps others. An Obadiah Wells married Jemima Wibur, Salisbury, May 25, 1749.
- (13) III. WILLIAM,<sup>4</sup> born Oct. 5, 1713.

Children of (3) TITUS<sup>3</sup> and Joanna Wells:

- (14) I. SARAH,<sup>4</sup> born July 30, 1698; married Jonathan Farren Dec. 10, 1719.
- (15) II. THOMAS,<sup>4</sup> born March 4, 1699-1700; married Sarah Hadley, Dec. 15, 1720. Children: Philip,<sup>5</sup> born 1721; Benjamin,<sup>5</sup> born 1724; Winthrop,<sup>5</sup> born 1726; perhaps others. A Thomas Wells, Jr., ent. int. marriage with Mary Sargent, 3d, both of Amesbury, March 23, 1728-9.
- (16) III. TIMOTHY,<sup>4</sup> born April 16, 1704; married Mary ——. He died before August 1728, his wife surviving him.
- (17) IV. TITUS,<sup>4</sup> born Feb. 5, 1705-6; married Mary —.
- (18) V. HANNAH,<sup>4</sup> born Feb. 5, 1705-6.
- (19) VI. PHILEMON,<sup>4</sup> born Sept. 3, 1708.
- (20) VII. JACOB,<sup>4</sup> born Aug. 28, 1710.
- (21) VIII. PHILIP,<sup>4</sup> born April 7, 1713; died Feb. 2, 1714-5.
- (22) IX. ELIZABETH,<sup>4</sup> born March 11, 1716.
- (23) X. ABIGAIL,<sup>4</sup> born Dec. 18, 1718.

Children of (8) ELEAZER<sup>3</sup> and Deborah Wells :

- (24) I.    MOSES,<sup>4</sup> born Sept. 17, 1716.
- (25) II.   JUDITH,<sup>4</sup> born March 1720.
- (26) III.   AARON,<sup>4</sup> born Dec. 30, 1722.
- (27) IV.   HANNAH,<sup>4</sup> born Jan. 5, 1722-3. (?)
- (28) V.    ELIEZER,<sup>4</sup> born April 9, 1729.

Children of (10) JOHN<sup>3</sup> and Dorothy Wells :

- (29) I.    RHODA,<sup>4</sup> born Feb. 24, 1713-4; married — Currier.
- (30) II.   ELECTA,<sup>4</sup> born April 7, 1715; married — Currier.
- (31) III.   ELIZABETH,<sup>4</sup> born Sept. 16, 1716; married — Challis.
- (32) IV.   DOROTHY,<sup>4</sup> born Feb. 18, 1717-8; married Jonathan Bagley.
- (33) V.    CHRISTIANA,<sup>4</sup> born June 21, 1720; married — Merrill.
- (34) VI.   JOHN,<sup>4</sup> born Jan. 24, 1721-2; married Rachel Currier, July 20, 1756. He died November 16, 1767, leaving children: Levi,<sup>5</sup> Hannah,<sup>5</sup> Dorothy<sup>5</sup> and Rebecca.<sup>5</sup>
- (35) VII.   MARY,<sup>4</sup> born Feb. 14, 1723-4; married John Currier.
- (36) VIII.   THOMAS,<sup>4</sup> born Sept. 3, 1725; moved to Chester, N. H., previous to 1768.
- (37) IX.    DAVID,<sup>4</sup> born March 14, 1729-30; died Sept. 12, 1753.
- (38) X.    REBECCA,<sup>4</sup> born Oct. 28, 1731; died Oct. 2, 1753.

Children of (17) TITUS<sup>4</sup> and Mary Wells :

- (39) I.    SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> born Aug. 16, 1736.
- (40) II.    ENOCH,<sup>5</sup> born April 16, 1738.
- (41) III.   MARY,<sup>5</sup> born Dec. 15, 1739; married Theodore Hoyt, the author's great-grandfather.
- (42) IV.    NATHAN,<sup>5</sup> born Aug. 5, 1741.
- (43) V.    JOSHUA,<sup>5</sup> born Feb. 7, 1743-4.
- (44) VI.    HANNAH,<sup>5</sup> born Dec. 21, 1745.
- (45) VII.   JOSEPH,<sup>5</sup> }
- (46) VIII.   JUDITH,<sup>5</sup> } baptized July 24, 1748.



# APPENDIX.



## THO: WELLS, HIS WILL.

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KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE P<sup>R</sup>SENTS, that I, Thomas Wells, of Ipswich, in the county of Essex, being weake of body, yet of p<sup>r</sup>fect memory blessed be God, doe make this my last will and testament in maner following, viz :

I comend my soule into the hands of my blessed Redeemer, in hope of a ioyfull resurection vnto eternall life att the last day, and my body to be decently buried.

*Item.* I give and bequeath vnto Abigaill my wife eight pounds yearly, to be payd vnto her out of my Lands where now I dwell dureing her life, in leiw of her dowrye ; and this is to be payd yearly in wheat, malt, porke and Indian corne, in equal p<sup>r</sup>portion, and to be good and marchentable, and payd at the current marchentable price, as such is then payd at heere in Ipswich. Alsoe I give vnto her to have one of the best roomes in the house, viz : either the hall or the parlour, (at her choice,) and to enioy the same dureing her widdowhood, and to have free liberty to bake, brew and wash, &c., in the kitchen, and free liberty to lay her corne, meale, and mault, &c., in the hall chamber, and free vse of garden ground, where she liketh best, and to have it well fenced in, and to have land duly tilled to sow flax-seed on, and that yearly as she shall see cause ; and freedom in both cellars as shee needeth, and shall have suficiency of firewood p<sup>r</sup>vided and seasonably layd in, and that yearly at the cost of my executor ; and free liberty to keepe three or four hens and a pigg or hogg in y<sup>e</sup> ground and yards ; and shall have the sixt part of the



fruite that shall yearly grow in the orchyard, and shall have the free vse and liberty of all these dureing her widdowhood.

*Ite.* I give unto my said wife the old bay mare (she uses to ride on) and the bridle, pillion seate, and pannell, and two coves, (att her choice), and to have the keepeing of a horse or mare and two coves for her vse both sumer and winter, and good houseroome for them in winter, and these to be well kept, at the cost of my executor, dureing her widdowhood; allsoe I give vnto her, the bible she uses, and the booke called the Soule's P'paration for Christ, and that of Perkins upon the Creed, and the bedsted we lye on, and the bedding, curtaines and valens thereunto belonging, (exsepteing the blue rugg,) and to have the best green rugg in leiw thereof; and I give unto her the best chest, and the inlayd box with T W upon the lidd, and to have one halfe of the lynyen and lynyen cloth, and the third of the woollen cloth yt is in the house or in yarne or cloth at the weaver's, and the third of the woole in the house at my disease, and one halfe of the pewter that was her own father's, and the pewter pint pott, and a brase or iron pott (at her choice); and I give vnto her the iron skillet and some of the best spoones, and a good poringer and a coopell of saucers (at hir choice), and the best low chaire, and hir little chaire and a good cushen, and one of the great wheeles and a little spinning wheele, and the warming pan, as leagasies.

*Ite.* My will is that my sayd wife shall have the free use of any kettle (of myne in the house) or milke vessells, &c., shee needeth, and of any other small things in the house (that's myne) as though they were hir owne, and that without controule, and to have freedom at the well for watter, and liberty for hir clothes or anything elce to be spred, &c., where she pleaseth, and these dureing her widdowhood.

*Ite.* Whereas John Wells (my second sonn) hath received of me a deed of gifts, of all the lands I had at the town of Wells in the province of Maine, being the quantity of thre hundred and fyfte acres (more or less) arrable meddow and pasture, together with two coves and ten pounds fyfteene shillings y<sup>t</sup> I have payd (at his request) vnto Stephen Kent, of Haverill, in cattle, vpon a bill due from Francis Littlefield, (his father-in-law), with several other things, all

w<sup>th</sup> he hath received of me in lieu of his portion, and accordingly my will is, that the same soe stand.

*Ite.* I give unto my sonn, John Wells, ten pounds to be payd vnto him or his assigns within three years next after my decease, five pounds thereof in cattle, neate and in good condition, and the other five pounds in wheat, malt and Indian corne, in equall p'portion, and all good and marchentable, and at the current marchentable price, as it then goes heere in Ipswich, and to be deliverd at my now dwelling house; p'vided that my sonn John Wells be then living; and I give vnto him my cloke, and one of the great pewter candlesticks w<sup>th</sup> the top thereof, and two great saucers and two little saucers more, and I give vnto Sarah his wife (my daughter-in-law) one five shilling piece of gould, as leagases.

*Ite.* Whereas my two eldest daughters, viz: Sarah Massie, of Salem, and Abigaill Tredwell, of this towne, hath eache of them had thirtye pounds in leiw of there p'ortions, my will is that Sarah Massie, or her assignes, shall have a good cow, or to the value of four pounds ten shillings, in other cattle, neate and in good condition, (bulls only exsepted,) and not to exceed eight years of age, and to have the same delivered here, where now I dwell, w<sup>th</sup>in one yeare and a halfe next after my decease, and alsoe, to have the benefitt of the grase of a little peace of salt marsh ground, adioyning to the northwest end of Mr. Wade's, neare vnto Hogg Iland, and my daughter Sarah to enjoy the vse of this vntil the decease of my brother Massie, her father-in-law, and then to returne vnto my executor.

Allsoe I give vnto Abigaill Tredwell, my daughter, my six acre lott of salt marsh, &c., that lyes in Plumb Iland, to her and her heires of male, or a good cow, to be delivered vnto her in good condition, within one year and a halfe next after my decease.

*Ite.* I give and bequeath vnto Thomas Wells, my youngest sonn, two hundred and fiftie pounds sterl. in leiw of his portion, to be payd vnto him, his heires or assignes, out of my housen and lands where now I dwell, within seven years, foure month and nyne or ten days, next after the sayd Thomas Wells, my sonn, doe come to the full age of one and twenty yeares, viz: one hundred pounds to be

payd at or before the twentieth or one and twentieth day of the third month, comonly called May, next com twelvemonth after the sayd Thomas Wells, my sonn, doe come to the age of one and twenty years (whose birth day was upon the eleaventh day of the eleaventh mo : Anno Dom : one thousand six hundred forty-six) ; forty pounds thereof to be paid in cattle, neate, and in good condition, (bulls only exsepted,) and in horse-kynd, viz : in geldings, and the horse-kynd not to exceed the sum of eight pounds, and for age not to exceed not above six years old, and allwayes p'vided that the leane cattle and the horse-kynd be payd and delivered in the third month, called May, and thirty-six pounds thereof to be payd in wheate and barley malt, in equall proportions, and all to be good and marchentable, both sweete, dry and well dressed, and twenty-foure pounds thereof to be payd in Indian corne, pease, porke and sheepe, and all to be good and marchentable as aforesayde ; the Indian corne not to exceed the sum of twelve pounds, nor the sheepe to exceed the sum of foure pounds. And the other hundred pounds to be duly and faithfully payde vnto the sayd Thomas Wells, my youngest sonn, his heires or assignes, w<sup>th</sup>in three yeares next after the time and day or dayes of payment of the former hundred pounds, and all to be payable and well and faithfully payd unto Thomas Wells, my son, his heires or assignes, according to the former hundred pounds, both for kind and quality, and quantitie, and the remaining fitye pounds to be duly and faithfully payd vnto the sayd Thomas Wells, my youngest son, his heires or assignes, within the prementioned seaven years, foure months and nyne or ten dayes, next after that the sayd Thomas, my son, doe come to the age of one and twenty years ; twenty pounds thereof to be payde in wheat and barley malt, both good and marchentable, being sweete, dry and well dressed, and in equall proportion, and fiteene pound thereof to be payde in cattle, neate, and in good condition (bulls and *bullstaggs* only excepted) ; and fiteene pounds therof to be payd in Indian corn, porke and pease, and all to be good and marchentable ; the Indian corne not to exceed the sum of seaven pounds ten shillings ; and all the cattle, horse-kinde and sheep to be duly payd and d'd at my now dwelling house, heere in Ipswich, and all the rest to be likewise delivered heere, att my house

where I now dwell, or at any other house, malt kilne and wharfe in Ipswich where the said Thomas, the sonn, or his assignes shall apoynt the same.

*Ite.* My will is, that if my executor (whom I shall name and apoynt) doe not duly and faithfully pay and discharge this two hundred and fiftie pounds as before mentioned, according to my true intent (as before expressed), either in whole or in part, then the sayd Thomas Wells my youngest son, his executors or assigns, shall enter upon and take possession of the housen and lands where now I dwell, both of arrable, meddow and pasture, and quietly to posses and enioy the same vntill the whole be discharged, any thing heerin contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

*Ite.* My will is, that if the said Thomas my youngest son shall dye and decease this life before he come to the full age of one and twenty yeares, y<sup>n</sup> y<sup>e</sup> executor of this my last will shall pay vnto the rest of my children the full sum of one hundred and forty pounds, viz.: vnto John Wells, or his survivors the full sum of forty pounds, and the other hundred pounds to be equally proportioned and divided among my other five daughters or to their survivors, viz.: to Sarah Massie of Salem, to Abigaill Tredwell of this towne, to Elizabeth Wells, Hanah Wells and Lidia Wells my daughters, each and every of them to have twenty pounds a peece, and all to be payd vnto them out of my housen and lands where now I dwell, and that noe horse kind be payd in any part thereof; the forty pounds to my son John Wells, and the twenty pounds apeece to Sarah Massie and to Abigaill Tredwell and Elizabeth Wells (my three eldest daughters) to be payd vnto them accordingly as is engaged vnto their Bro: Thomas Wells, both for kind and quality (except before exsepted), nor shall the cattle, neate and in sheepe, exceed halfe in any one p'ticular p'portion in this hundred and forty pounds, and all to be payd vnto them as aforesayd at or before the twentieth or one and twentieth day of the third mo: called May, w'h shall be in the yeare of o' Lord one thousand six hundred sixty-eight; and the other twenty pounds apeece to Hanah Wells and Lidia Wells my own daughters, shall be payd vnto each of them or their assignes in wheat, barly, malt, porke, pease and Indian corne, the Indian corne in each twenty

pounds not to exceed the sum of foure pounds ten shillings, and all to be good and marchantable, and at the current marchantable price as such is then payd at here in Ipswich, and these twenty pounds apeece to my youngest daughters to be duly payd at or before the 28 day of March, Anno Dom: 1670, and all to be d'd here at my now dwelling house, or at any other house or wharfe in Ipswich where the sayd Hanah and Lydia, or their assignes, shall apoynt the same.

*Item.* My will is, that Thomas Wells my youngest son, shall quietly posses and enjoy, for his vse, the parlour chamber of this house where now I dwell, and have free liberty for fire wood vntill he marry, and y<sup>e</sup> he shall have his diate and washing whiles he keeps here, at the cost of my executor, vntill he come to the age of 22 years, 4 months and ten days.

*It.* I give vnto my son Thomas Wells all the bookes I bought for his vse, and my three phisicke bookes, and the booke called the Orthodox Evangelist, the greate sermon booke, and Hyeling's Geogripha, and the little chist and table (he made) that stand in the hall chamber, and my white box, and the chist planks to make him a chist on, and the little iron candlestick, my white rule, my red pen-sheare, and my penknife, and my sword and scabbitt, and my firelock muskett wth a square barrell, and the mould, worme and scourer, &c. Alsoe I give vnto him the little bedstead in the hall chamber, and the little fetherbed therto belonging, and a paire of good sheets, and the red blankett and the blue rugg, and a good pillow and pillow beere. Allso I give vnto my son Thomas my silver bowle, and one two-and-twenty shilling peece of gould, and I give vnto him all my right and interest of the bond that is due vnto me from goodman John Andrews, of this towne, carpenter, save only six pound ten shillings therof to my son Nath. Wells, and w<sup>ch</sup> makes the rest that he hath already had y<sup>e</sup>of twentye pounds, and this I give vnto my son Thomas, towards his charges of his goeing to the colledge, and for bookes and apparrell, &c., or to put him to Mr. Allcocke or the like, and I give the new picktures, viz. of the King and Queene, and of the Five Sences; these I give vnto him as legasies, as allsoe my stufe clothes and a paire of my best stockings.

*Itē.* I give vnto Elizabeth Wells, Hanah Wells and Lidia Wells, my three youngest daughters, each and every of them thirty-five pounds a peece, to be payd vnto them in leiu of their portions, within one year next after they marry, or when they come to the age of one and twenty years; twenty pounds therof to be payd in cattle, neat and in good condition (bulls only exsepted), and in sheepe in good condition, and the remaineing fiteene pounds in each and every portion to be payd in wheate, barly, malt, porke and Indian corne, in equall p'portion, and all to be good and marchantable, and to be payd at the current marchentable price as such is then payd att in Ipswich afores<sup>d</sup>, and to be d'd at my now dwelling house, save only the corne and malt to be d'd heere or at any other house, malt kiln or wharf where my daughters or any of them, or there assignes, shall apoynt the same; allsoe my will is that every of these my daughters shall have each of them a bible, and every of them a good chist, and to have these delivered vnto each of y<sup>m</sup> w<sup>th</sup>in one yeare after my decease.

*Itē.* I give and bequeath vnto Sarah Massie of Salem, and to Abigaill Tredwell of this towne, and to Elizabeth Wells and Lidia Wells my owne daughters, each and every of them two halfe crowne peeces of English money, to be d'd unto y<sup>m</sup> within one mo: next after my decease, and I give vnto Hanah Wells, my daughter, one ten shilling peece of gould, to be d'd vnto her within one mo: next after my decease, all w<sup>ch</sup> money, and the silver bowle that is given vnto my son Thomas, and to his three younger sisters, viz. to Elizabeth Wells, Hanah and Lidia Wells, I have already given them into the hands and custody of Thomas Wells, my youngest son, whom I trust and confide in, to give the same as I have bequeathed unto his three younger sisters, and to keepe the rest to himselfe, besides matter of legasies, and they not at age as yett.

*Itē.* I give vnto Abigaill my wife the third part of the English money w<sup>ch</sup> shall remaine and be left, and not payd vnto the legaties y<sup>t</sup> is deceased in England, and kindred of our Vncle Lumpkins; and my will is that my sayd wife shall have the tuission of my daughter Elizabeth Wells and my daughter Lidia Wells vntill they marry or come to the age of one and twenty years; but if the said Lidia doe

not keepe with her mother, then she to be with her sister Sarah Massie, if all p'tyes be willing.

*Item.* My will is that M<sup>rs</sup> Mary Rogers of Rowley shall have the tuition and education of my daughter Hanah Wells, untill she marry or come to the age of one and twenty years, hopinge the sayd M<sup>rs</sup> Rogers will please to doe me that favour.

*Ite.* I give vnto my cousin Mary Baker (alias Lowe) of Colchester, soe much New England money as equivalent to fitye shillings Old England money, and my will is that my executor doe faithfully endeavor to convey the same vnto her, it being in reference to an agreement between both my brother Warners and myselfe, in answer to a request of our Aunt Lumkin (alias Stone) late deceased, and to take the advice of my Bro: Daniell Warner about the conveighing of the same; also my executor may further direct himselfe by w<sup>t</sup> I have sett downe in my booke of accounts to that purpose, as in folio 57, and by a letter sent vnto vs from Colchester.

*Ite.* I give and bequeath all the rest of my whole estate, both moveable and vnmmoveable, p'sonal and reall, houses and lands, vnto Nath: Wells, my eldest son, p'vided he doth fully accept heerin, to be my executor, whom I make and ordaine to be the sole executor of this my last will and testam<sup>t</sup>. Allwayes p'vided, that if the s<sup>d</sup> Nath: Wells dye and cease this life w<sup>th</sup>out any issue of male (lawfully begotten), my will is, that then y<sup>t</sup> then, the s<sup>d</sup> housen and lands heere in Ipswich bounds, shall returne unto the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Wells, my youngest son, and to his heires of male, and the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas, my son, then to pay vnto Lidia, Nath: wife (my daughter in law), the sum of forty pound w<sup>th</sup>in one yeare and halfe next after the decease of Nath: her husband; this p'mitted that the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas, my youngest son, doe then fully posses and enioy y<sup>e</sup> aforesaid housen and lands, and this forty pounds to be payd in cattle, neate, and in corne, malt and porke; twenty pounds thereof to be payd in cattle, neate and in good condition (bu.<sup>ls</sup> only exsepted), and the other twenty pounds to be payd in wheat, malt, porke and Indian corne; the Indian corne not to exceed the sum of eight pounds, and all to be good and marchentable, and pade at the current marchentable price, as such y<sup>t</sup> goes at heere in Ipswich, and to be delivered heere at my now dwelling

house, only the malt at some malt kilne in Ipsw<sup>h</sup> where the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas shall then have his malt. And the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas, my youngest son, shall pay vnto the s<sup>d</sup> Nathaniell's children the sum of one hundred and forty pounds; the one halfe in cattle, neate and in good condition (bulls only exsepted) and in horse kind, and the horse kind not to exceed the sum of 15 £, and the other half of the 140 £ to be payd in wheate, malte, porke, pease and Indian corne; the Indian corne (in all) not to exceed the sum of twenty pounds; and this 140£ and the pay therof to be equally divided, and p<sup>r</sup>portioned amongst and payd unto y<sup>m</sup> within one yeare and halfe next after they marry, or when they come to the full age of one and twenty years, and all to be marchentable, and payd heere at my now dwelling house, only the malt at some malt kilne in Ipswich, where the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Wells, my son, shall have hees malte (this allwayes p<sup>r</sup>mised, that the said Thomas, my son, have the possession of the housen and lands).

Alsoe my will is, and it is my real intent, that my son Nathaniell's children shall have the sum of eight pounds yearly payd by my son Thomas Wells, or his assigns, towards there bringing vp whilst they come to the age of fiteene years, and the pay therof, for kinde and quallity, as to there mother aforesayd, yet when any of them doe come to the age of fiteene years, then ther p<sup>r</sup>portion of the 8£ p. yeare to be abated; and for the yearly payment therof vnto my grandchildren, my will is y<sup>t</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Wells, my son, or his assigns, pay the same into the hands of the Honored court held in Ipswich aforesayd, or to whom they shall please yearly to apoynt for the children's good, and then my son Thomas to be discharged.

*Ite.* My will is, that if the s<sup>d</sup> Nath: my eldest son shall dy and cease this life without issue of male (as aforesayd), then the sayd Thomas Wells, my son, (he being possest of the housen and lands as afores<sup>d</sup>.) shall pay vnto my son John Wells, his Bro: or to his assigns, the sum of 40£ within 4 years next after the decese of their bro: Nath. Wells.

And for the portions I have given and bequeathed vnto my three youngest daughters as is not then due, and hence unpaid, viz: at the death of there Bro: Nath: my eldest son, my will is that my son Thomas Wells, or his assigns, shall then pay these portions, p<sup>r</sup>vided



that my son Nath: Wells, or his executors or assignes, doe leave soe much stock upon this farme vnto my son Thomas as shall amount to the one halfe of these portions, and that the stock soe left be in such as there portions is to be payd in, or in such as shall satticefic the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas, my youngest son.

*Itē.* My will is, that if anything fall out amongst my wife and children (or any of them) otherwise than well, that then my loueing and faithfull friends, whom I shall chuse and appoynt oversears of this my last will, will please to examine, consider and advise, to mutuall agreement who (by there wise discretion) may settle matter amongst them, so as may tend most and best to peace and brotherly loue w<sup>ch</sup> Christ loue.

Fynally I desire my loveing and faithfull friends, Thomas Bishop, Sen<sup>r</sup>, and M<sup>r</sup> Thomas Andrews, to be the overseers of this my last will and testament, and to be the gardians of my sonn Thomas Wells dureing the time of his mynority and nonage, to whom I give as a token of my respect and love ten shillings apeece.

In wittness wherof, and to w<sup>ch</sup> I, the above named Thomas Wells, Sen<sup>r</sup>, haue heer vnto set my hand and seal, dated the 31 of the fifth mo: comonly called July, in the eighteenth yeare of the raigne of o<sup>r</sup> Sovereigne Lord, Charles the Second, by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred sixty six.

Pr me, THOMAS WELLS, Sen<sup>r</sup>  
and a seale.

Sealed and Subscribed in the presence of

THO: BISHOP, Sen<sup>r</sup>

THOMAS BURNAM, Sen<sup>r</sup>

The 15th of November, 1666, this will was p<sup>v</sup>ed. by the oaths of Thomas Bishop and Thomas Burnam to be the last will and testament of Thomas Wells, before the worshipfull M<sup>r</sup> Samuell Symonds and maior Gen<sup>ll</sup> Denison, and the clarke being present.

Pr me, ROBERT LORD, Cleric.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. }  
ESSEX, ss. }

Office of Clerk of the Courts, June 11, 1873.

The foregoing is a true copy of record.

Attest: A. A. ABBOTT, Clerk.

## ABIGAILL WELLS, HER WILL.

---

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, Abigaill Wells, of Ipswich, in New England. being very weake of body but of good memory, doe comend my soule into the hands of my blessed Redeemer, in hope of a joyfull resurrection to eternall life att the last day ; my body to be decently buried ; and do dispose of my goods in maner as followeth : I haveing bestowed som<sup>e</sup> gifts vpon my other daughters w<sup>ch</sup> are maryed. I now give my daughter Hanah Wells my new paragon gowne and my new Holland handkerchief.

*Item.* The flax w<sup>ch</sup> is now growing, my son Nath: Wells is to have halfe to breake and cleane the other halfe, w<sup>ch</sup> I give to my daughter Elizabeth Burnam.

*It.* I give tenn pounds of tow yarne to my daughter Lidia Ropps.

*It.* I give vnto my daughter Hanah Wells the five and twenty of flax tow which I haue in the house, and five pound more to my daughter Lidia Ropps

*It.* I give to my daughter Hanah Wells one paire of sheetes, orfe pillow beere, one napkin, one table-cloth, and two shifts ; and the rest of my weareing lennen to be devided equally betweehe my youngest three daughters.

*It.* I give to my daughter Abigaill Tredwell my best new dressing.

*It.* I give to my daughter Elizabeth halfe my tow yarne, provided she pay for the weaveing of the other halfe, which I give to my daughter Hannah, and I give my daughter Elizabeth what tow I haue in the house.

*It.* I give my sonn Thomas Wells ten shillings in such goods as shall be left.

*It.* I give to Mary Greley, my son's maydservant, six shillings; and y<sup>e</sup> rest of my goods and cattle I desire (when my charges and reckonings are cleared) should be devided equally betweene my son John Wells and my owne five daughters. Also I desire my eldest son, Nathaniell Wells, to be the executor of this my last will and testament. And this is my last will, this twenty-second of July, one thousand, six hundred and seaventy-one.

(NO SIGNATURE.)

MARY FOWLER.  
and a marke.

FAITH WARNER.  
and a marke.

This will was p<sup>r</sup>ved in court held at Ipswich, the 26 (7) 71, by the oaths of Faith Warner and Mary Fowler, to be the last will of Abigaill Wells.

As attest ROBERT LORD, Cleric.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, }  
ESSEX, ss.

Office of Clerk of the Courts, June 11, A. D. 1873.

The foregoing is a true copy of record.

Attest: A. A. ABBOTT, Clerk.

## RECORD

*Of the Probate proceedings in the County Court of York County, Maine, on the administration of the estate of John Wells, second son of Thomas Wells of Ipswich.*

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"An inventory of the estate of John Wells of Wells, who deceased the 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1677. [The items are here omitted.] Total £352 8<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>."

Nov. 6, 1677.

(VOL. 3, P. 50.)

"Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells of Ipswich, a<sup>d</sup> Tho: Wells of Amesbury, a<sup>d</sup> Saraih Sayer, late wife of John Wells, deceased, are hereby appoynted joint administrators to y<sup>e</sup> estate of the afores<sup>d</sup> John Wells, the whoole estate for improvement being allowed unto her during her maintenance of y<sup>e</sup> children, a<sup>d</sup> if any of y<sup>e</sup> children bee by order of y<sup>e</sup> court, or any two of y<sup>e</sup> assotiates of Yorke Shyre, oyerwise disposed of, y<sup>en</sup> a proportion of y<sup>e</sup> income of y<sup>e</sup> estate is to bee allowed on y<sup>t</sup> accoyt, and the whoole estate of lands to bee reserved for devision among y<sup>e</sup> children as they come of age, the ellder sonn to have a double portion, a<sup>d</sup> y<sup>e</sup> other children y<sup>r</sup> equall shayres."

Nov. 6, 1677.

(VOL. 3, P. 94.)

"W<sup>R</sup>AS, Mr. Thomas Wells, and Saraih, the reliēt of John Wells, lately deceased, refuse to accept of y<sup>t</sup> administration w<sup>ch</sup> by order of the last County Court was granted of the s<sup>d</sup> John Wells afores<sup>d</sup>, and Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells not appearing, w<sup>ry</sup> not anything can bee done touching y<sup>e</sup> fullfilling of y<sup>t</sup> order, to affect for future settlement

of y<sup>t</sup> estate: This Court doth y<sup>r</sup>fore order and appoynt, for the better improvement thereof, that Saraih Sayer, widdow of John Wells, according to the County Court order, shall have y<sup>e</sup> improvem<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> whoole estate put into her hands for bringing up her children, and the propriety of fivety acres of uplands, and seaven acres of marsh adjoyneing to the lower part of s<sup>d</sup> land w<sup>o</sup>n y<sup>e</sup> houses are now erected; upon consideration w<sup>o</sup>f William Sayer, now husband unto s<sup>d</sup> Saraih Wells so formerly, stands firmly bound by these presents and authority, to pay, or cause to bee payd, unto y<sup>e</sup> children of s<sup>d</sup> John Wells w<sup>a</sup> they come to age, the full some of sixty pounds; and the afores<sup>d</sup> fivety acres of land stands ingaged for the true payment y<sup>r</sup>of, and for the security of the remainder part of the land to bee reserved, and to bee equally disposed of to y<sup>e</sup> children w<sup>a</sup> they come to age, according to an equall division.

“Francis Littlefeild stands bound to authority with William Sayer, in a bond of six hundred pounds, a<sup>d</sup> his daughter Saraih Sayer, administrators to John Wells, his estate, to respond all legall rights belonging to y<sup>t</sup> estate: Mr. Thomas Wells refusing to take administration of the s<sup>d</sup> estate, according to y<sup>e</sup> order of this Assotiate Court.”

DEC. 4, 1677.

JULY 2, 1678. “W<sup>R</sup>AS, there was an order of the County Court, 6 Noveb<sup>r</sup>, '77, for the settling of John Wells, his estate, of Wells, deceased, w<sup>o</sup>by Natha<sup>l</sup> Wells a<sup>d</sup> Thos. Wells, minister, of Amesbury, with Saraih, the relect of y<sup>e</sup> sayd John Wells, w<sup>r</sup> appoynted joynt administrators y<sup>r</sup>of; w<sup>ch</sup> County Court order, upon some considerations by the Court of Assotiate, 4<sup>th</sup> Deceb<sup>r</sup>, '77, was made null; w<sup>ch</sup> order of the Assot'e Court, at this Court, from severall exceptions made against it by Nath<sup>l</sup> a<sup>d</sup> Tho: Wells, whose alligation, with y<sup>e</sup> premises, they considering, doe hereby reverse y<sup>e</sup> a<sup>c</sup>t of that Assot'e Court, a<sup>d</sup> do confirm a<sup>d</sup> establish the a<sup>c</sup>t of the County Court in November, as then settled unto all intents and purposes.”

(SAME DATE.)

“Natha<sup>l</sup> Wells renounceth administration of John Wells, his brother's estate, w<sup>ch</sup> the Court accepts off.”

A true copy of record.

Attest:      H. H. BURBANK, Register.

## WILL OF SARAH SAYER,

*Widow of John Wells, and subsequently of William Sayer.*

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TO ALL PEOPLE TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME—  
GREETING: KNOW ye, that I, Sarah Sayer, of Wells, in the county of York, of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, relique of William Sayer, late of Wells afore<sup>s</sup><sup>d</sup>, deceased, tho' weak of body yet of sound and well disposing mind and judgment, do—committing my spirit in the first place unto God, the Father of it, through Jesus Christ, and my body into the hands of my executors, hereafter named, to be by them decently interred, in hopes of a blessed resurrection—dispose of the temporal estate with which God has been pleased to bless me in the manner following, viz. :

1. My will is that all my just and honest debts, together with my funerall charges, shall be paid out of my estate by my executors hereafter named.

2. I give and bequeath unto my son John Wells eight pounds, to be paid him by my executors within six months after my decease. I will, also, that a bond of thirteen pounds, given by him to me, shall be freely surrendered up unto him by my executors within the afore<sup>s</sup><sup>d</sup> term of six months after my decease. And I will that the eight pounds I herein give unto my <sup>s</sup><sup>d</sup> son, John Wells, be laid out by him in procureing a funerall coat after my decease.

3. I give and bequeath unto my son Thomas Wells eight pounds to procure a funerall coat after my decease, the which <sup>s</sup><sup>d</sup> sum shall be paid him by my executors within six months after my decease. I will, also, that a bond of thirteen pounds, given from him to me, shall be freely surrendered up to him after my decease.

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4. I give unto my daughter Patience Clark five pounds (besides five pounds I have already given her), to be paid unto her by my executors within six months after my decease.

5. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Sayer, of Newbury, two pounds; and four pounds apiece to each of her two sons, viz.: Jonathan Sibley and Sam<sup>l</sup> Sibley; these several sums to be paid unto my s<sup>d</sup> daughter Sarah Sayer, and her afores<sup>d</sup> two sons, by my executors, within six months after my decease.

6. I give and bequeath unto my son Francis Sayer thirty pounds, to be paid unto him within six months after my decease, by my executors.

7. I give and bequeath unto my grandson William, son of my son Daniel Sayer, dec<sup>sd</sup>, thirty pounds, to be paid him by my executors within six months after my decease.

8. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Hannah Chesley thirty pounds, to be paid her by my executors within six months after my decease.

9. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Ruth Sampson thirty pounds, to be paid her by my executors within six months after my decease.

10. I give and bequeath unto my great-granddaughter Mary Clark, daughter of my grandson Nathaniel Clark, a certain feather-bed that has an homespone tick, to be delivered to her by my executors within six months after my decease.

11. I will that whatever use or interest shall be found due upon my bonds that any of my children or grandchildren have obliged themselves unto me by, shall be freely, wholly and absolutely remitted, released and given up unto such from whom it may be found due, by my executors at my decease.

12. I give and bequeath unto my four daughters my wearing clothes, as follows, viz.: I give to my daughter Patience Clark a black calaminco suit and my black-blew searge pettycoat. I give to my daughter Sarah Sayer my silk crape suit, and my red-and-yellow under-pettycoat. I give unto my daughter Hannah Chesley my silk suit. I give to my daughter Ruth Sampson my striped calaminco suit, and a striped calaminco gown, and a black silk pettycoat. All

the rest of my clothes I will shall be equally divided among these my four daughters; and if either of these my daughters shall de cease before I shall, then I will that their daughters shall have such clothes as their mother would have had by virtue of this my will if they were living.

13. I will that four pounds shall be paid by executors unto the Church of Christ in Wells, within six months after my de cease, to be distributed by them among some of the poor members of s<sup>d</sup> church.

14. I will all my estate, of what nature or kind soever, not already disposed of in this my last will and testament, unto my two grandsons and my two daughters, hereafter mentioned, viz.: Joseph Sayer, William Sayer, Hannah Chesley, and Ruth Sampson, to be delivered up unto them, and equally divided amongst them, within six months after my de cease.

15. Finally, I do hereby ordain, constitute and appoint my son Francis Sayer and my grandsons Joseph Sayer and William Sayer to be the sole executors of this my last will and testament; and do hereby revoke and disanull all former wills and testaments heretofore made by me, and declare this to be my last will and testament.

As witness my hand and seal, this twenty-seventh day of April, Anno Domini 1734; annoq<sup>e</sup> R. R. Georgii Secundi, Magnæ Britanniaë, etc., septimo.

N. B. The words "or grandchildren" were interlined between y<sup>e</sup> sixth and seventh lines from y<sup>e</sup> top of the second page before signing, and y<sup>e</sup> word between will and all, in y<sup>e</sup> thirty-first line from y<sup>e</sup> top of the second page, was erased before signing.

SARAH SAYER. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed and pronounced in presence of

HANS DALYEL.

JEREMIAH STORER.

JEREMIAH STORER, Jr.

STATE OF MAINE, }  
YORK, ss. }

A true copy of record.

Probate Office, July 8, A. D. 1873.

Attest: H. H. BURBANK, Register.



## WILL OF JOHN WELLS.

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IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. To whomsoever it may concern, be it hereby known: That I, John Wells, of Wells, in the county of York, in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, yeoman, being of a sound disposing mind, tho' far advanced in years, do, under the apprehension of my approaching death, commit my departing spirit unto the mercy of God thro' Jesus the Mediator, and my body into the hands of my executors hereafter mentioned, to be by them decently interred, in full belief of the resurrection thereof by the mighty power of God; and dispose of the temporal estate wherewith the Lord hath blessed me in the following manner, viz.:

1<sup>st</sup>. I will that all my just debts, and funeral charges, shall be paid by my executors hereafter named out of my moveable estate.

2<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Mary Wells fifty pounds in old tenor bills of the Province afores<sup>d</sup>, to be paid unto her by my executors within three years after my decease.

3<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter Mary Maddock fifty pounds in old tenor bills, to be paid unto her by my executors within three years after my decease.

4<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my grandson John Maddock fifty pounds, old tenor, to be paid unto him by my exec<sup>r</sup> within three years after my decease.

5<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my grandson Palsgrove Maddock fifty pounds, old tenor, to be paid unto him within three years after my decease, by my executors.

6<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Mary Pike fifty pounds, old tenor, to be paid unto her by my executors within three years after my decease.

7<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my granddaughter Sarah Maddock fifty pounds, old tenor, to be paid unto her by my executors within three years after my decease.

And my will is, that in case my said wife, or daughter Mary, or either of her aforementioned children, shall die before me, then my executors shall pay the sum they were to have paid unto such deceased person or persons provided they had survived me, according to my foregoing bequestm<sup>ts</sup> unto them, unto such of those six persons who shall survive me, dividing it in equal shares amongst those survivors, over and above the fifty pounds I have herein given to each one of them in particular; and that the afores<sup>d</sup> bequestm<sup>ts</sup> shall be each one's full share and portion in and to all and every part of my estate, to whom they are respectively made. Furthermore, my will with respect to my said daughter Mary and her aforementioned four children is, that if I should, during my natural life, pay or cause to be paid unto her, my said daughter Mary, and her said four children, or any of them, all or any part of the fifty pounds I have herein willed my executors to pay them, my executors shall be discharged of such sum or sums so paid to them, or any of them, in my lifetime, anything herein contained to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

8<sup>ly</sup>. I give and bequeath unto my beloved son John Wells, Jun<sup>r</sup>, his heirs and assigns forever, all that parcel of land on which he now dwells, and the marsh adjoining thereunto, excepting four acres of marsh lying next to Joshua Wells' marsh; the said land and marsh lying and being in Wells afores<sup>d</sup>, butted and bounded as is express<sup>d</sup> in a deed given under my hand and seal, of said land and marsh, unto my said son John Wells, dated Anno Domini 1740, and recorded with the records for deeds in the said county of York, within which bounds the said four acres of marsh are included, but excepted and reserved in said deed, and since the making thereof conveyed by me to my beloved son-in-law Thomas Goodwin and my beloved daughter Hannah, the wife of the said Thomas Goodwin. And further to

prevent any difficulty that may arise thro' any weakness or deficiency in said deed, or on any account whatsoever, I do likewise hereby bequeath and renewedly give unto my said son John Wells the same one half of my part of the saw-mill standing over the lower falls of Little River, with the one half of y<sup>e</sup> privilege that belong<sup>d</sup> to me there before the making said deed, and the one half of the utensils, implem<sup>ts</sup> and appurtenances belonging to my said part of said mill, as is expressed in the aforementioned deed; together with the buildings, fencings, trees, timber, wood, underwood, herbage, and everything appertaining to the land where he now dwells, and to the marsh adjoining thereunto; and likewise one fourth part of the grist mill, it being that which he himself has built over the lower falls at Little River since my making the aforementioned deed unto him.

9. I give and bequeath unto my said beloved son-in-law Thomas Goodwin, and my beloved daughter Hannah, the wife of the said Thomas Goodwin, their heirs and assigns forever, fourteen acres of land, upland, interval or fresh meadow ground, and salt marsh, be it more or less, lying and being in Wells afores<sup>d</sup>, butted and bounded as is expressed in a deed to them given under my hand and seal, dated the twenty-seventh day of January, Anno Domini 1743-4, and recorded with the records for deeds for the said county of York, lib<sup>o</sup> 25, fol<sup>o</sup> 28; together with the buildings and fencings that are or shall be thereupon at the time of my death, with y<sup>e</sup> trees, timber, wood, underwood, herbage and minerals thereunto belonging; still reserving the strip of land lying next to Nath<sup>l</sup> Clark's land, two rods wide, which is reserved in said deed, and the liberty of flowing the interval as reserved in said last deed, and herein hereafter disposed of. I likewise give unto my said daughter Hannah Goodwin, her heirs and assigns forever, one quarter part of the lower saw-mill on Little River lower falls, with one quarter part of the said falls and privilege where the said saw-mill stands, and one quarter part of y<sup>e</sup> utensils, implements and appurtenances belonging to said mill. I also give and bequeath unto my said daughter Hannah Goodwin one quarter part of the grist-mill standing on or over said falls at Little River, with a quarter part of the utensils, implements and appurtenances belonging to said grist-mill.

10. I give and bequeath unto my grandson Thomas Goodwin, a minor, twenty acres of land, be it more or less, lying and being in said Wells, to be to him, his heirs and assigns forever, butted and bounded as is expressed in a deed I have given him hereof, under my hand and seal, bearing date the twenty-seventh day of January, Anno Domini 1743-4; still reserving y<sup>e</sup> liberty of overflowing any interval ground there may be in s<sup>d</sup> bounded land, which is reserved in the last mentioned deed, and which is herein hereafter disposed of. And with the said twenty acres of land I give and bequeath unto my said grandson, his heirs and assigns forever, all the buildings and fencings that are or shall be upon it at the time of my death; and likewise all the trees, timber, wood, underwood, herbage and minerals thereunto belonging.

11. I give and bequeath unto my grandson John Wells, a minor, his heirs and assigns forever, all the land I now dwell upon, on the south side of Little River, in said Wells, it being all y<sup>e</sup> lands I have in my homestead farm on said side of Little River, not otherwise disposed of, together with the buildings and fences that are or shall be thereupon at the time of my death, together with the trees, timber, wood, underwood, herbage and minerals thereunto belonging.

12. I give and bequeath unto my said son John Wells and my said daughter Hannah Goodwin, their heirs and assigns forever, all reserves of flowing any of my interval land, and of the strip of land lying next to Nath<sup>l</sup> Clark's land, and all reserves of lands or privileges made in this instrument, or in any other instrument of conveyance at any time made by me to any person or persons; and all lands, meadows, rights, town and common rights, household goods, stock, money debts, and every part or parcel of my estate, real and personal, of what name, nature or kind soever it be, not otherwise disposed of, to be equally divided between them.

13. And now, finally, revoking all other wills and testaments which may heretofore have been made by me, and declaring them null and void, I constitute and appoint my said son John Wells and my said daughter Hannah Goodwin sole executors of this, which I pronounce and declare to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal,

## WILL OF JOHN WELLS.

this tenth day of May, Anno Domini 1748; annoq. R<sup>i</sup> R<sup>a</sup> Georgii  
Secundi, Magnæ Britaniæ, etc., vicessimo primo.

JOHN WELLS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, pronounced and declared in presence of us.

NATHANIEL CLARK.

JOSHUA WELLS.

NATHANIEL CLARK, JUN<sup>R</sup>.

STATE OF MAINE, }  
YORK, SS. }

Probate Office, July 8, A. D. 1873.

A true copy of record.

Attest: H. H. BURBANK, Register.

## WILL OF THOMAS WELLS.

---

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. To all Christian people to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Know ye, that I, Thomas Wells, of Wells, in y<sup>e</sup> county of York, in the Province of y<sup>e</sup> Massachusetts Bay, in New England, yeoman, being now of a sound disposing mind, tho' weak in body, do — committing my spirit into the hands of God, the giver of it, thro' Jesus Christ the Mediator, and my body into the hands of my executors hereafter mentioned, to be by them decently interred, in hopes of a glorious resurrection to a life immortal—dispose of y<sup>e</sup> temporal estate with which God has blessed me, and which I have hitherto reserved, in the following manner, viz.:

1. I give and bequeath unto my dearly beloved wife Lydia Wells all my household stuff of every sort and kind, my negro man Jeff, one half of y<sup>e</sup> quick stock that is between my son Nath<sup>l</sup> and myself, whether at home or wheresoever it be, and one hundred pounds in bills of credit on y<sup>e</sup> Province afores<sup>d</sup>, to be paid unto her by my son Nath<sup>l</sup> out of my debts, and one half of y<sup>e</sup> leather that is now in our tan pitts that is between my s<sup>d</sup> son and myself; and likewise I give unto her, my s<sup>d</sup> wife, y<sup>e</sup> one half of the out-door tools and utensils of every kind that are now between my s<sup>d</sup> son Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells and myself, during y<sup>e</sup> term of her natural life, and at y<sup>e</sup> expiration thereof to return to my s<sup>d</sup> son Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells.

2. I give unto my s<sup>d</sup> well beloved son Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells all my debts of every kind, he paying one hundred pounds in bills of credit, as afores<sup>d</sup>, unto my s<sup>d</sup> wife Wells, as also y<sup>e</sup> one half of my out-door

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tools and utensils which I have given to my wife (during her natural life), after her decease, y<sup>e</sup> other half being his. I also give unto him, my s<sup>d</sup> son Nath<sup>l</sup> Wells, over and above what I have heretofore conveyed to him by deeds, twenty shillings.

3. I give and bequeath unto my well beloved son Joshua Wells, over and above what I have already conveyed to him by deeds, twenty shillings.

4. I likewise give and bequeath unto my well beloved daughter Lydia Clark, over and above what I have already given her, twenty shillings.

I do also hereby constitute and appoint my dearly beloved wife Lydia Wells to be executrix, with my well beloved sons Nath<sup>l</sup>. Wells and Joshua Wells, whom I also appoint to be executors with her, of this my last will and testament.

And finally, hereby revoking and disannulling all other wills by me heretofore made, do pronounce and declare this to be my last will and testament, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, Anno Domini 1737; annoq. R<sup>i</sup> R<sup>e</sup> Georgii Secundi, Magnæ Britainiæ, etc., undecim.

N. B. The words "that is between my s<sup>d</sup> son and myself," being inserted between y<sup>e</sup> 25 and y<sup>e</sup> 26 line from y<sup>e</sup> top; to be red between y<sup>e</sup> words "pitts" and "and," in y<sup>e</sup> 26 line.

THOMAS WELLS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, pronounced and declared in presence of us.

JOHN COLE.

ELEAZER CLARK.

ELISHA NASON.

STATE OF MAINE, }  
YORK, ss. }

Probate Office, July 8, A. D. 1873.

A true copy of record.

Attest: H. H. BURBANK, Register.

## WILL OF JOHN WELLS.

---

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. To whomsoever it may concern, be it hereby known: That I, John Wells, of Wells, in the county of York, and State of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, blacksmith, being of a sound disposing mind, though far advanced in years and infirm of body, do, under the apprehension of my approaching death, commit my departing spirit to the mercy of God, through Jesus the Mediator, and my body into the hands of my executors hereafter mentioned, and to be by them decently interred, in full belief of the resurrection thereof by the mighty power of God. I dispose of the temporal estate wherewith the Lord hath blessed me in the following manner, viz.:

First. I will that all my just debts, and funeral charges, be paid by my executors hereafter named out of my estate.

Secondly. I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Deborah Wells the use and improvement of the one-half of the land, buildings and salt marsh whereon I now dwell, for and during the term of her natural life, together with the one-half of my moveable estate, to her sole use and benefit forever.

Thirdly. I give and bequeath unto my son Samuel Wells the one-sixth part of my saw-mill, standing on Little River lower falls, so called, with the implements belonging thereunto; also two rights in the common and undivided lands in the township of Wells.

Fourthly. I give and bequeath unto my son Dependence Wells, at the decease of his mother, the one-half of the land and salt marsh whereon I now dwell, with the one-half of the buildings standing



thereon, which half his mother is to have the use and improvement of during the term of her natural life ; and to prevent any imbecility that may happen to be in a certain deed which I made to my son Dependence, bearing date the first day of August, one thousand, seven hundred seventy-seven, of the other half of said land, salt marsh and buildings, I now hereby give and bequeath unto him, the said Dependence, the last half mentioned of the said land, salt marsh and buildings, with the quarter part of the grist mill standing on Little River lower falls, so called, with said part of the priveledge of the falls and flowing, with one-half of my cattle, tools and farming implements, to him and his heirs and assigns forever.

Fifthly. I give and bequeath unto my eldest daughter, Susannah Gould, twenty ounces of silver, or the value thereof in current money of this State, to be paid her or her heirs, by my executors hereafter mentioned, within three years after my decease.

Sixthly. I give and bequeath unto my second daughter, Hannah Storer, forty ounces of silver, or the value thereof in current money of this State, to be paid her or her heirs, by my executors hereafter mentioned, within three years after my decease.

Seventhly. I give and bequeath unto my youngest daughter, Mary Wells, forty ounces of silver, or the value thereof in current money of this State, to be paid her or her heirs, by my executors hereafter mentioned, within three years after my decease.

Eighthly. I give and bequeath unto my daughter-in-law Elizabeth Wells, my eldest son's widow, the use and improvement of that part of a certain parcel of land which I purchased of her husband, John Wells, Jun<sup>r</sup>, deceased, that I have not conveyed to my son Samuel Wells, for and during the term of six years from the date hereof.

Ninthly. I give and bequeath unto my grandson Daniel Wells the remainder of the land which I purchased of his father, that is not heretofore conveyed to my son Samuel Wells, to him and his heirs and assigns forever ; he paying to his brothers, John, Edmund and Isaac, and his sister Deborah, thirty ounces of silver each, or the value thereof in current money of this State, as soon as they come respectively to be of lawfull age to act for themselves ; and my will

is that the aforementioned bequestments shall be each one's full share and proportion in and to my estate and every part thereof, to whom they are respectively made. And now, finally, revoking all other wills and testaments which may have been heretofore made by me, and declaring them to be null and void, I constitute and appoint my beloved wife Deborah and youngest son Dependence Wells sole executors of this, which I pronounce and declare to be my last will and testament.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this thirty-first day of March, Anno Domini one thousand, seven hundred and seventy-nine.

JOHN WELLS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, pronounced and declared in presence of us.

ADAM CLARK.

ISAAC STORER.

JOSIAH CLARK.

YORK, ss.

October 29th, 1776.

The will aforesaid was this day duly proved, at York, in said county, by the oaths of Adam Clark, Isaac Storer and Josiah Clark, in common form.

Before me, JOSEPH SIMPSON, Judge of Probate.

Recorded from the original by

DAVID SEWALL, Reg<sup>r</sup>.

STATE OF MAINE, }  
YORK, ss. }

Probate Office, November 3, 1873.

A true copy of record.

Attest: H. H. BURBANK, Register.

## WILL OF NATHANIEL WELLS.

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As it is appointed to all men once to die, and my advanced age and bodily indispositions admonish me of the approach of my great and last change, in the apprehension hereof, I, Nathaniel Wells, Esq., of Wells, in the County of York, being, tho' infirm in body, yet of a sound disposing mind, do commit my soul to the mercy of God, thro' Jesus Christ, and desire that my body may, after my decease, be decently interred by my executors hereafter named, in hope of a happy resurrection to eternal life; and of the temporal estate with which God has blessed me I dispose in the following manner, viz. :

1. I will that my just debts, funeral charges, and the legacies hereafter mentioned, be paid by my executors out of the real and personal estate not hereafter otherwise disposed of; and for this purpose I do hereby give them full power to sell and dispose of the same in such a manner as they shall think proper.

2. I give to my beloved wife Dorothy Wells the use and improvement, during her natural life, of one-half of the house and barn, and the lands leased to me by my son Nathaniel, and of one-half of my homestead, excepting what I have sold to my son Nathaniel, and of all my marsh lying on both the branches of Little River. Also I give her my negro servant, all my household goods, and one-half of all the rest of my personal estate, debts excepted.

3. I give to my beloved daughter Dorothy Wheelwright, besides what I have already given her, one-half of a tract of marsh called Long Point, and one-half of another tract of marsh called Curtis's

Island, and thirty pounds, lawfull money, to be paid by my executors within two years after my decease. Also the ballance of accounts due to me from her husband.

4. I give to my grandson Ralf Wheelwright six sheep, to be delivered by my executors within one year after my decease.

5. I give to my beloved son Nathaniel Wells my whole interest in the dwelling house and other buildings, to have and hold after the decease of his mother, he paying towards the discharge of debts and legacies thirty pounds within two years after my decease.

6. I give to my beloved son Robert Wells my lot of land, containing about an hundred acres, lying near Buttonwood swamp, in centre division of the common lands in Wells, called number —, to have and to hold to him and his heirs forever; also a tract of marsh called Smith's Marsh, together with all my marsh on the northern branch of Little River, to have and to hold from and after the decease of his mother; also a grant of ten acres of land made to Thomas Littlefield, deceased, which I purchased of Joshua Eaton.

7. I give to my grandson Ebenezer Rice one-quarter part of Long Point and Curtis's Island aforesaid, to have and to hold after the decease of my wife; also I give him sixteen pounds, lawfull money, to be paid him by my executors when he shall arrive to the age of twenty-one years.

8. I give to my granddaughters Dorothy Rice and Lydia Rice, to each of them one-eighth part of Long Point and Curtis's Island, aforesaid, to have and hold to them and their heirs forever, after the decease of my wife; also to each of them eight pounds lawfull money, to be paid them by my executors upon their arrival to the age of eighteen years, or the time of marriage if sooner. And my will is to relinquish all claims and demands I may have upon my son-in-law Eben<sup>r</sup> Rice, provided he shall relinquish all claims and demands upon me.

9. I give to my beloved son John Light Wells one yoke of oxen and one cow.

10. I give to my sons Nathaniel Wells, Robert Wells, John Light Wells, aforesaid (debts, legacies and funeral charges, aforesaid, being first paid), besides what I have already given them, all the residue of

my estate, real and personal, including all debts, dues and demands, to be equally divided between them.

And my will is that the legacies aforesaid be paid by my executors, at their option, either in money or out of my real and personal estate as the same shall be appraised, anything before to the contrary notwithstanding. And with respect to the marsh which I have given to my daughter Dorothy Wheelwright, my will and meaning is (anything before to the contrary notwithstanding) that she have not the use and improvement of any part of it till after the decease of her mother.

And now, finally, revoking all other wills and testaments which may heretofore have been made by me, and declaring them null and void, I constitute and appoint my sons aforesaid, Nathaniel Wells, Robert Wells, John Light Wells, sole executors of this, which I pronounce and declare to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this twenty-third day of July, Anno Domini one thousand, seven hundred and seventy-six.

NATH<sup>L</sup> WELLS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, pronounced and declared in the presence of us.

MOSES HEMMENWAY.

DANIEL CLARK.

JOHN COLE.

HEBER KIMBALL.

Recorded from the original by

DAVID SEWALL, Reg<sup>r</sup>.

STATE OF MAINE, }  
YORK, ss. }

A true copy of record.

Probate Office, July 8, A. D. 1873.

Attest: H. H. BURBANK, Register.

## WILL OF ROBERT WELLS.

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IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN. I, Robert Wells, of Wells, in the county of York, yeoman, considering the uncertainty of this mortal life, and being of sound and perfect mind and memory, do commit my soul to the mercy of God, through the merits of the great Redeemer, and my body to the care of my executor hereafter named, to be by him decently interred, in full belief of the resurrection thereof by the power of Him that made it; and dispose of the temporal estate wherewith God hath blessed me in the following manner, viz. :

My will is that all my just debts, and funeral charges, be paid by my executor hereafter named out of my personal estate.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife Abigail Wells the use and improvement of one third part of all my real estate, during the term of her natural life; also one third part of my personal estate, to be disposed of as she thinks proper.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Ebenezer Wells twenty dollars, over and above what I have already given him, to be paid him by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Robert Wells ninety dollars, over and above what I have already given him, to be paid him by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Daniel Wells thirty dollars, over and above what I have already given him, to be paid by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give and bequeath to my beloved son Bartholomew Wells two hundred dollars, over and above what I have already given him, to be paid by my executor within two years after my decease.

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I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Moses Wells two hundred and thirty dollars, to be paid him by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Theodore Wells two hundred and thirty dollars, to be paid him by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter Susanna Wells one hundred dollars, to be paid her by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter Martha Wells one hundred dollars, to be paid her by my executor within two years after my decease.

I give, bequeath and devise unto my beloved son William Wells, the third, one-half of my home lot of land, lying in Wells aforesaid, containing in the whole about one hundred and forty acres, be the same more or less, together with one-half of my dwelling house and barn, and other buildings thereon; also one-half of my salt marsh, lying in Wells aforesaid, between the northern and western branches of Little River, so called, adjoining said river where the said branches meet, containing in the whole about seven acres, more or less; having by my deed this day disposed of the other half of the above mentioned premises to the said William. I give, bequeath and devise unto the said William one other tract of land, bounded as follows, viz.: southeasterly by Thomas Chick's land; southwesterly by land of Joseph Hobbs and John Storer; northwesterly by land of John Storer and Joshua Littlefield; northeasterly by land-owners unknown; containing in the whole about one hundred and forty acres, be the same more or less. To have and to hold the above demised premises, together with all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, real and personal, of what kind and nature soever, not otherwise disposed of in this will, to him, the said William, his heirs and assigns forever; excepting and reserving, in all cases, his mother's right of thirds as above mentioned. Provided, nevertheless, that the said William shall pay the above mentioned legacies and bequestments as ordered and directed in this will. Provided, also, that if any part or the whole of any or all the above mentioned legacies shall be paid

by my executor before my decease, then he be released from such payment after my decease.

And now, revoking all former wills by me made, I hereby appoint the said William Wells, the third, sole executor of this, which I now pronounce and declare to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this fourth day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and two.

ROBERT WELLS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the above named Robert Wells to be his last will and testament, in presence of us.

NATH. WELLS, S<sup>r</sup>.

NATH<sup>l</sup>. STORER.

JEREMIAH STORER, JUN<sup>r</sup>.

WILLIAM TEBBETS.

### CODICIL.

I, Robert Wells, of Wells, in the county of York, do, this twenty-fifth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and twenty, make and publish this codicil to my last will and testament, in manner following, viz. :

I give to my daughter Susanna Furbish, wife of Joshua Furbish, one bed, and bedding thereto belonging, my large looking-glass, a brass candlestick, and three flowered stone plates, and two silver spoons.

I give to my granddaughter Abigail Wells, daughter of my son Daniel, my stone sleeve-buttons, and a large earthen platter.

I give to my granddaughter Abigail Wells, daughter of my son Bartholomew, a large pewter platter, and a dining-table.

I give to my granddaughter Abigail Jefferds Wells, daughter of my son William, my other bed, and bedding thereto belonging.

I give to my granddaughter Abigail Wells, daughter of my son Ebenezer, three flowered stone plates, and a waiter.

I give to my granddaughter Rhoda Wells, daughter of my son William, my desk.



I give to my granddaughter Lydia, daughter of my son William, my warming-pan.

I give to my granddaughter Nancy Wells, daughter of my son William, my cullender.

I give to my grandson Robert Wells, son of my son William, my great bible.

I give to my daughter Martha Littlefield, wife of Joshua Littlefield, one case of draws, and three silver spoons, now in her possession, and also three bow-back chairs.

I give to my granddaughter Ann Maria Wells, daughter of my son Moses, two decanters.

I give to my granddaughter Sally Wells, daughter of my son Bartholomew, one iron pot and kettle.

I give to my granddaughter Nancy Wells, daughter of my son Theodore, one silver spoon, one pudding-dish.

I give and devise unto my son William Wells, his heirs and assigns forever, all the rest and residue of my estate, whether real, personal or mixed, that is not particularly disposed of in my will or in the codicil thereunto annexed.

I give unto my granddaughter Abigail Wells, daughter of my son Robert, one yellow-and-blue yarn coverlet.

And lastly, it is my desire that this present codicil be annexed to and made a part of my last will and testament, to all intents and purposes.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, the day and year before mentioned.

ROBERT WELLS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed, published and declared in presence of us, who subscribed our names as witnesses in the presence of the testator.

JOSEPH GILMAN.

NATHANIEL STORER.

JEREMIAH STORER.

STATE OF MAINE, }  
YORK, ss. }

A true copy of record.

Probate Office, July 8, A. D. 1873.

Attest: H. H. BURBANK, Register.

## WILL OF DANIEL WELLS.

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KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that I, Daniel Wells, of Skowhegan, in the county of Somerset, being of sound mind and memory, do make and publish this, my last will and testament.

First. I give and bequeath to my daughter Hannah A. Pratt a note I now hold against her for fifty dollars and interest, and in addition thereto the sum of four hundred dollars.

Second. I give and bequeath to Helen Pratt, daughter of said Hannah, the sum of two hundred dollars.

Third. I give and bequeath to my daughter Emeline the sum of three hundred dollars.

Fourth. I give and bequeath to my daughter Sarah J. Parker the sum of two hundred dollars.

Fifth. I give and bequeath unto my daughter Susan Brown the sum of two hundred dollars.

Remembering with affection my sons Daniel, William and Charles K., and my daughter Abigail, and believing they have been sufficiently provided for, or have sufficient property of their own, I make no provision for them.

All the remainder of my property, after paying the legacies above named, I give to my daughters Hannah, Emeline, Sarah J., and Susan, aforesaid, in equal proportions.

And I do hereby nominate and appoint Stephen Coburn, of said Skowhegan, to be my sole executor of this my last will and testament.

## WILL OF DANIEL WELLS.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this seventeenth day of September, A. D. 1861.

DANIEL WELLS. [L. S.]

Signed, sealed, published and declared as his last will and testament, by the said Daniel Wells, in our presence, who at his request and in his presence have hereunto set our hands as witnesses.

STEPHEN COBURN.

H. A. WYMAN.

SAMUEL BURNS.

SOMERSET, ss.

May 7, 1867.

Received and filed in the Probate office.

Attest : S. D. LINDSEY, Register.

Approved July 2, 1867.

A true copy.

Attest : S. D. LINDSEY, Register.























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